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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 6TH DECEMBER.

A CASE PARALLEL to that of the Patna School Riot lately occurred at Cambridge. Seven under-graduates were charged before the Cambridge magistrates with riotous behaviour at a concert at the new Corn-Exchange. Three were fined £10 each, and three others in lesser amounts, one being discharged. A body of under-graduates outside the Guildhall manifested great anger at the decisions, and some of the windows of a magistrate's house were broken.

THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH has given an important judgment in a case in which the Corporation of Dublin resisted payment of a claim of £500 for services rendered by Mr. Clemenshaw, a gas engineer, in connexion with a Bill which they had unsuccessfully promoted for the purchase and management of gas-works. The Lord Chief Justice observed that it was a well established principle of law that, in general, contracts with corporations should be under seal; but the gas inspector of the defendants told the plaintiff that it was not necessary, and the co-headed Englishman of science swallowed the misconception. It was the duty of the corporation to light, cleanse, and pave the city, but instead of confining themselves to that, they wanted power to enable them to send gas to Wicklow This case is parallel to the grant of Rs. 35,000 to Dr. Tonnerre, which the Calcutta Justices have no power under the law to give.

MR. GLADSTONE in a speech at Greenwich thus advocated the cultivation of music:

"We are now coming, we have almost come, to the belief that music is a general inheritance, that the faculty of music is a common faculty of the people forming an intelligent community. Was that so 50 years ago? I remember the time when you were laughed at in this city if you contended, as I was stoutly contending, that the human being as such was musical; you were considered a fool, a dreamer, an enthusiast. People used to say "I can't tell one note from another; I don't care a bit about music;" and I replied by saying, "If the nurse who carried you when you were three or six months old had continued to carry you until you were 40, you would not be able to walk." (Laughter.) If there be those who have no sense of music they are analogous to those who are born deaf or blind, and consequently are entitled to sympathy as being excluded from one of the purest enjoyments Providence has ordained for human nature."

Would that these remarks were appreciated by the educational authorities in India!

IN THE SAME SPEECH Mr. Gladstone made these truthful and significant remarks: "It is a broad and unquestionable fact that the price of nearly all descriptions of labour is rising considerably and that in London the number of unemployed clerks presents an astonishing contrast to the number of employed builders and carpenters. Of that which is called head labour there is more in the market than is wanted; that which is called hand labor the supply is limited, and the price rapidly and progressively rising." These remarks apply with equal force to India. Keranies are far cheaper than coolies!

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS Prince Leopold is coming out bright in the promotion of literature and science. We noticed last week the interest he takes in Shakespearean Readings. The English papers brought in by the last mail contain a remarkable address of his on the cultivation of science and art in England. We glean from it the following statistics of the Kensington School of Science and Art:

"The Science and Art Department was first established in 1852, when the number of Art Schools was 20 and the number of students 7,117. In the year 1874, by which time Art night schools had been organized, there were 132 Art schools, attended by 24,138 students (cheers); 653 Art night schools, attended by 21,851 students, and 23,735 elementary day schools, at which drawing was taught to 290,425 children. There were also 46 training colleges, in which 3,475 students were taught drawing. There were, therefore, last year 3,204 places where instruction in drawing was given under the rules of the Science and Art Department, and these places were attended by 339,889 individuals. With regard to the Science classes, they were first established in the year 1860. In the following year there were 38 classes, attended by 650 students, and this year the number amounts to 1,299 and the number of students to 62,314. (Applause.) Nor is this all. There now exists at the central school at Kensington a National Art Training School, established in 1852, and a Science Training School, established within the last three years. At both of these schools teachers destined to carry on instruction in the provinces receive an adequate training. (Cheers). Then as to the practical outcome of the vast machinery, I have also been furnished with valuable information. It appears that within the last 15 years it was very much the custom of manufacturers of furniture, woven fabrics, pottery, and other goods in which tasteful decoration is an important feature to obtain the greater part of their designs from France. Now, however, French manufacturers imitate many of the English designs, and offer their wares as specially attractive because they are "*selon legout Anglais*." (Applause.) English designers are, moreover, very largely employed in fields of labour formerly almost monopolized by foreigners. It must, I think, be allowed that the Kensington School of Science and Art has not laboured in vain, and that we are not far from proving—if, indeed, the proof be not already furnished—that notwithstanding the stern nature of our climate, and the deadening effect, it is said, upon high authority, to have upon the powers of the imagination, English men and women are showing themselves well capable of producing works of an undoubtedly high imaginative order. (Loud applause.)

Strange that the Government of India literally does nothing in this line. Sir Richard Temple purposes to do something, but as yet we have seen no definite action taken.

THE FOLLOWING statement gives the cash balances in the Government Treasuries on the last day of the month of October 1875 compared with those on the same date in 1873 and 1874:

	1873. Rs.	1874. Rs.	1875. Rs.
Govt. of India.....	23143634	28104975	25358333
Bengal	24422770	2 3393895	19523587
Assam	.....	1878342	3114795
British Burmah	4016520	4528943	4926493
N. W. Provinces.....	19128836	11742408	14086635
Oudh	6327169	3578832	4868358
Punjab	9630059	1127204	9976826
Bombay	27828137	14311273	17301154
Central Provinces...	6433199	4018107	3435160
Madras	24483742	17206264	21062062
TOTAL.....	141445865	117035842	123651904

Penang, 26th *Nov.*—Mr. Birch's missing man has returned to the Residency. He relates that he was captured by the Malays, and that he made his escape after the taking of Passir Sala, where he says considerable loss was inflicted on the Malays, many being wounded. The Maharajah Cila is constructing strong stockades higher up the river, and declares he will resist to the uttermost, and will only yield to starvation. The Governor is at Penang. Preparations for the campaign are actively progressing.

TUESDAY, 7TH DECEMBER.

WE ARE GLAD to observe that the Committee of the Aborigines' Protection Society have been raising a fund for a testimonial to Mr. D. Plevitz. This gentleman has proved himself to be a devoted and self-sacrificing friend of the Indian laborers of Mauritius; he has been publicly assaulted for his services in their cause; and as our readers are aware, the appointment of a Royal Commission was mainly due to his exposure of the unjust treatment of the Indians. A sum of £84 has already been subscribed. In the list of subscribers we notice among others the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society, Sir Charles Wingfield, Major-General Robert Shaw, Admiral Erskine and three Members of Parliament.

AN APPLICATION for a summons against Dr. Kenealy and his son for perjury and conspiracy in connexion with the prosecution of the *Englishman* newspaper by Mr. George Potter, was refused by Mr. Alderman Figgins, who deemed the evidence insufficient to sustain the charge.

BALTIMORE has got a new Hall of white marble, which has taken eight years in construction and has cost two and a quarter millions of dollars. It covers a square of ground in the heart of the city 238ft. by 147ft. The plan is a main building four stories high, with wings three stories high on each of the four streets running around it. The architecture is modern Renaissance, the fronts being highly ornamented. Each wing is surmounted by a high Mansard roof, while in the centre of the main building there is an imposing dome which rises 240ft. above the pavement, and contains a large clock and bell.

THE TIMES thus describes the reception of the Prince of Wales at Bombay:

"The pageant, at Bombay has been splendid. Princes whose names are scarcely known to the English people, but whose families have a prouder lineage than the oldest of our aristocracy, have come to welcome the Prince with a profusion of pomp to which we can find a Western parallel only in Mediæval chivalry. Gorgeous dresses, masses of retainers, the show and the glitter of what seems another age have been arrayed in the streets of Bombay. All this pomp is the more striking because Western civilization tends to become more and more ashamed of merely personal parade. We put our gaudy dresses on our servants. Our soldiers seek to lay aside their trappings when they are off duty. Even the Court finds it difficult to keep up a moderate amount of formal splendour. We all tend to sink into a shooting coat style of negligence. But if we rush to the East, as the Prince has done, we go back more than a thousand years to a state of society in which splendour is a necessary accompaniment of power. These marks of distinction may be trifling in themselves, but they are great helps to the imagination, and better than anything else, perhaps, do they enable the visitor to the East to estimate the enormous complexity of the elements which make up the British Empire."

THE WRITER thus moralises:

"Living mostly in London, visiting Continental Courts going from one great country house to another, receiving the loyal addresses of provincial towns, making speeches and going through complex the round of Royal duty, the Prince has never seen more than a corner of the society over which he is some day to rule. He and all of us are apt to think that England is everything. We seldom give a thought to the fact that our forms of society, government, and religion are merely provincial; that England fills the same small place in a world-wide Empire as Rome did eighteen hundred years ago; that England is a heathen rather than a Christian State; that our Mahomedan fellow-subjects vastly outnumber the Christians of these islands; or that our Government is the most despotic in the civilized world. When we do think of these things our provincial ideas become tempered. Those who have lived in the East see how vast is the responsibility we have undertaken by becoming the rulers of India. It matters not how we went there, for we must keep the power we have got. It matters little whether our Indian Empire is a strength or a weakness to us, for in any case we must continue to rule it. The people must be protected from the rapacity, selfishness, sensuality, or cruelty of the Native rulers into whose hands they would fall the instant our backs were turned. They must get the best we can give them of Western civilization. In a dim way we all feel this to be a duty, and, fortunately, the nation is rich in men whom the love of power, the hatred of disorder, and the instinctive wish to do their utmost make the best practical missionaries ever sent to any nation.

In a country where Royalty can so powerfully set the fashion, the Prince of Wales can do much to direct attention to the affairs of our Indian Empire. His visit to the East will do still more to give him an adequate idea of his own immense responsibilities. Having seen the great cities, the marks of old civilization, the thronging masses of people, he will find that India has hitherto been a mere name to him, and it will become a reality. Nothing could so powerfully quicken the sense of responsibility as the sight of a vast country, peopled by two hundred millions of souls, lying absolutely at the mercy of the power which is symbolized by the British Crown. Nothing could beget earnestness more than the reminder which the Prince will receive every hour of the immeasurable importance of the edicts framed for a dumb, helpless mass by a few men of his own nation. The pleasures of a highly civilized society are good and necessary in their way, but Royalty has its duties as well as its pastimes, and nowhere can the imagination be so fired by a sense of those duties as in India."

A POEM, entitled "Guido and Lita," by the Marquis of Lorne, has just been published.

THE QUEEN'S BENCH in England holds that the Justices there have no absolute power to refuse Licenses to publicans. In case of refusal they must state their reasons and the Queen's Bench has the right to review them.

THE TIMES publishes by telegraph a column and a quarter of an account of the Prince of Wales' visit to Bombay from its own correspondent.

IT IS SAID that a lady was the remote cause of the Perak disturbance. She was the daughter of the King of Quedah, which is a small state just north of Perak. Perak was or ought to have been, tributary to the Siamease King but was usually independent. He was a brutal Malay chief whose aim in life was the perfection of his harem. The daughter, however had charms enough to captivate an Englishman, our Captain Light the commander of some vessels. It is a long time ago, in 1875, and the story of the courtship is forgotten; but the Englishman married the Malay Princess, and took as her dowry the Island of Penang. It was still subject to a tribute; but Captain Light gave it, tribute and all, to the East India Company. He was rewarded or paid by the appointment of Governor with Rs. 25,000 a month. Three members of Council, a Secretary and Assistant Secretary were also appointed: members of council each getting Rs. 1,300 a month. But the expense of the new settlement were very heavy, and Bengal had to make an allowance. The climate too was fearfully unhealthy. Captain Light lived on still 1794, however, and his wife was living in 1819. She had grown hidious by that time, and her two daughters were handsome girls enough; one of them married a young English officer who died a General some little time ago. The malaria of Penang at last became so fearful, and every body died off so last, than in 1800 some of the mainland was bought by the company from the King of Quedah and called, Wellesley after the Governor-General. All this gossip about the first British settlement in Penang and Wellesly but for which the Perack outbreak might never have happened, is taken from an old article in the *Calcutta Review*.

WEDNESDAY, 8TH DECEMBER.

IT IS STATED that the silk manufacture of America, which is fast increasing, already gives employment to 14,500 operatives.

MR. STANTON, the well-known bicycle rider, has ridden 650 miles in seven successive days with upwards of an hour to spare.

THE BISHOP of Ripon has upheld the decision of the Vicar of Marsden in refusing to allow the wards *Requiescat in pace* to be inscribed on a tombstone in Marsden church-yard, on the ground that it is in effect a prayer for the soul of the deceased, and that every true Protestant believes that when a soul leaves the body it is past praying for. Poor soul!

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT is now actively engaged with a gigantic scheme for the improvement of the system of canals throughout its European Empire, as well as of all the navigable rivers of which recently an entirely new survey has been made.

THE FOLLOWING table shows the amount of raw cotton worked up by the German mills in the course of the last forty years:

Yearly average		Consumption in lbs.
For 1836——40	... ...	18,597,100
„ 1841——45	... ...	27,595,500
„ 1846——50	... ...	32,879,200
„ 1851——55	... ...	56,410,600
„ 1856——60	... ...	96,935,300
„ 1861——65	... ...	97,565,100
„ 1866——70	... ...	140,251,300
„ 1871——75	... ...	224,441,300

The enormous stride which the manufacture has taken in the last ten years cannot fail to be a cause of satisfaction to the Eastern grower, for it is not on the Continent of Europe that Indian cotton finds its best market.

ADVICES from St. Petersburg state that Russia has annexed the territory on the right bank of the Syr Daria from the Russian frontier to the River Narym, hitherto belonging to Khokand.

THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE has the following:

"We hear from home that a General Officer has just escaped punishment for an attempted assault upon a lady in a railway carriage. The officer was a friend of Colonel Baker's but the case of the unfortunate ex-Hussar has not, it is evident, created much impression in this other soldier's mind. As luck would have it, the husband of the lady, though a civilian, is a staunch believer in the profession of arms, and rather than being an officer of distinction to disgrace he has accepted an ample apology, and £500 which has been handed over to a county hospital.

THE INDIAN PUBLIC OPINION states that at a meeting of the Senate of the Punjab University College, the item of Rs. 2,400, which appeared in the budget for the year 1876 to provide for the entertainment of a lecturer in English Literature and History, was disallowed on the motion of Pundit Moti Lall, which was seconded by another gentleman. The proposal was strongly opposed by the European members of the Senate and by no one more strenuously than the Director of Public Instruction, but the native members carried the day. We are inclined to think that the motion was a mistake. There can be no sound education in India which is not engrafted on English.

NATIVE OPINION describes a horrible state of things in Kattywar. The following extract from a petition to the Bombay Government conveys an idea of what it is:—

"That the Rajah of Wankaneer has shot dead nine kinsmen (brothers and nephews) of your petitioner and has wounded eight persons, whereof two are ladies, and carried away eleven persons into captivity and looted the village of Padal and burnt it for no fault of theirs whatever. Your petitioner has appealed to your Excellency in Council on the 9th of September 1875, complaining of the matter; but, unfortunately having as yet received no reply to it, now makes bold to draw your attention to it by means of this additional appeal in the matter."

The petition "describes a state of affairs," observes the *Times of India*, "that is far from creditable either to the Bombay Government or the Chief Political authority in Kattywar." The petitioner states to have "shown the dead bodies of the persons killed to Mr. Peile to whom a petition was presented by the complainant." This petition according to the complainant was disposed of by the Political Agent and an order passed on it by him. If this order—which the complainant says savours "of the nature of a privilege granted for committing atrocious crimes" to the rajas of Kattyaway—were published, the public would have been somewhat enabled to know the merits of this case. However the prayer of the petitioner, that of appointing a "commission consisting of independent men unconnected with the Raja or the Agency—is most reasonable," and we hope the Government will be pleased to grant it.

THURSDAY, 9TH DECEMBER.

THE FOLLOWING is the programme of the Prince of Wales's movements after His Royal Highness' departure from Calcutta:

January 1876.

3rd—Monday, leave Calcutta P. M., 4th—Tuesday, arrive Benares P. M., visiting Bankipore *en route*. 5th—Wednesday, Benares, 6th—Thursday, leave Benares A. M., arrive Lucknow, P. M., 7th—Friday 8th—Saturday 9th—Sunday, Lucknow. 10th—Monday, arrive Cawnpore, leave Cawnpore P. M., 11th—Tuesday, arrive Delhi A. M., 12th—Wednesday 13th—Thursday 14th—Friday 15th—Saturday 16th—Sunday 17th—Monday Delhi. 18th—Tuesday, arrive Lahore A. M., 19th—Wednesday, Lahore. 20th—Thursday, leave Lahore A. M., Arrive at Jummoo. 21st—Friday, Jummoo. 22nd—Saturday, leave Jummoo early. Arrive Lahore P M 23rd—Sunday, Lahore 24—Monday, leave Lahore noon Leave Umritsur P. M. 25th.—Tuesday, arrive Agra P. M. 26th—Wednesday 27th—Thursday 28th—Friday 29—Saturday 30th—Sunday Agra. 31st—Monday, Gwalior.

February 1876.

1st—Tuesday, Gwalior. 2nd—Wednesday, leave Gwalior. Arrive Agra P. M. 3rd Thursday, Agra. 4th—Friday leave Agra. Arrive Jeypore P. M. 5th—Saturday. Jeypore— 6th Sunday, Jeypore. Leave P. M., 7th—Monday, arrive Moradabad and drive to Kaladoonga. 8th—Tuesday 9th—Wednesday 10th—Thursday 11th—Friday 12—Saturday 13th—Sunday 14—Monday 15th—Tuesday 16th—Wednesday 17th—Thursday 18th—Friday 19th—Saturday 20th—Sunday 21st—Monday 22nd—Tuesday 23rd—Wednesday 24th—Thursday 25th—Friday 26th—Saturday 27th—Sunday 28th—Monday 29th—Tuesday Visit to Nynee-Tal and shooting in Kumaon Teraie and in Nepal Teraie.

March 1876.

1st—Wednesday 2nd—Thursday Sooting. 3rd—Friday, reach Bareilly. Leave Barielly P. M., 4th—Saturday, reach Allahabad A. M., Leave Allahabad P. M., 5th—Sunday, reach Khandwa P. M., Indore A, M, at 6. 6th—Monday, Indore, 7th—Tuesday, leave Indore P, M, 8th—Wednesday, arrive Nundgamm, and to Ellora, 9th—Thursday, Ellora, Leave 10th—Friday Bombay, and embark,

WE OBSERVE that a movement has been set on foot for the purpose of instituting a memorial in honor of the late Mr. C. Stephenson. It is proposed that the minimum subscription has been fixed for Europeans at Rs. 16 and for natives at one rupee per head. We are glad to see a suggestion made to the effect that part of the fund should be "the nucleus of a Stephenson Memorial Fund for the benefit of railway people out of employment." It would be well to apply the whole fund to that purpose.

MR. F. S. GROWSE, says the *Pioneer*, is engaged on an English prose translation of the Hindi Ramayana of Tulsi Das, which he hopes to have ready for publication about the end of 1876.

THE RECEIPTS from nine sales of Bengal opium and eight months' duty on Malwa opium have exceeded the estimated receipts by £221,146. Bengal opium has realized £424,859 more than the estimate, but the duty on Malwa is £203,713 less than the estimate. This fact ought to be noted by those who advocate the excise system.

A SCIENTIFIC expedition the *Academy* tells us, is being organized in Holland, for the purpose of exploring the interior of the Island of Sumatra.

FRIDAY, 10TH DECEMBER.

IT APPEARS from A PARLIAMENTARY BLUE-BOOK just published that in 1874 £355,876 was paid by railway companies for personal injuries, in the United Kingdom, and £251,293 for damage to goods, &c. In the preceding year the amount for personal injuries was £364,509, and for damage to goods, &c., £231,707.

THE CHIEF COURT OF THE PANJAB has just published a series of rules for the appointment, transfer, leave and removal of Munsiffs. Deputy Commissioners are to recommend candidates, giving full particulars as regards education, ability, character and social standing. These candidates are to pass a test examination, or if the Chief Court sees reason to exempt them they may be exempted. All Munsifs who have not passed will be on probation for six months, and if at the end of that time they have not passed will have to pass through a probation for a further period of 6 months. All applications for leave have to be submitted to the Chief Court. So the patronage in the appointment of Munsifs in the Punjab has been transferred from the Government to the Chief Court. The High Courts in the Presidencies do not possess this power.

THE DELHI GAZETTE says that that most useful and most enduring animal, the camel, is getting scarce in this country. The swift camels of former days, so extensively and profitably employed by private enterprise and Native Governments in sandy plains like those of Rajpootana, may be said to be almost extinct, and probably the loss is not felt much in these days of Railways and telegraphs, but we doubt whether we will ever be able to dispense with the camel as a beast of burden.

RUSSIA seems to have a heavy business at Khokand. The *Pioneer* says that if the Russians go on killing Kiptsghars much longer, there will soon be none of that unpronounceable tribe left. They rose against the Russians, who had lately taken the and along the Syr Daria as far as the River Narim. An attempt to take the new Russian post of Namanghan failed; and nearly 4,000 Kiptschaks were killed. Since then twenty thousand have been defeated with great slaughter. It is said that the Russian army in Khokand is in a very precarious state.

SEVERAL DISTINGUISHED American military officers have arrived at Bombay *en route* to the Delhi Camp of Exercise, These gentlemen have, it is stated, been deputed by the United States Government to observe and report upon the manœuvres at the Camp in January next.

A NEW instrument for measuring distances in the field has just been successfully tried by the War Office authorities. It is called a Macrometer, and Captain Poste of the 50th Foot, lately an Instructor at the Hythe School of Musketry, has the honor of being its inventor. With this instrument any base can be used, whether in paces or yards the scale on the arm being set to whatever the base line measures; and the observation being taken, the distance is at once read off on a peculiar calculated curve placed on a part called the "fan," the distance always being given in "yards."

SATURDAY, 11TH DECEMBER.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the report of a meeting of the Moorshedabad Association held on the 28th ultimo, Rai Rajiblochun Rai Bahadur presiding. The meeting discussed the subject of agriculture and art education and appointed a sub-committee to report on the best means of carrying it out. We are of opinion that the Association should move the Bengal Government to establish an Art school in Moorshedabad and co-operate with the Government and contribute to its support.

A CORRESPONDENT from Diamond Harbour protests against the rumoured transfer of the Police Station at Sultanpore to Culpi. He says that the removal of the Police station from the present locality will greatly inconvenience the people. Culpi is not centrically situated.

A CORRESPONDENT from Bagnan reports an outrage committed by a member of the Howrah Police at the Bagnan School. We refrain from giving the details of the outrage as the matter is *sub judice*. Our correspondent will be good enough to report the case to us when it is disposed of.

OUR ASSAM CORRESPONDENT calls our attention to the merits and services of Mr. A. C Campbell, Assistant Commissioner of Dhubri. He is said to be a very able and kind-hearted officer and highly popular with all classes of the local community.

THE LAST MORTUARY return of Calcutta for the week ending the 4th instant shews no decrease in the rate of mortality. The total number of deaths was 459. Deaths from cholera were 75 and from fever 162.

THE STATESMAN gives *kudos* to Sir George Campbell for the self-acting machinery of the Road Cess Act of Bengal The writer says that "the ease and silence with which the Road Cess Act works, seem to be due to its elaborate system, and its painstaking justice." He evidently forgets the history of this measure. The official mind had conceived two schemes for the levy of the Road Cess, the first was called the acreage plan, that is assessment by acres, whether cultivated or uncultivated, the second was assessment at a certain percentage upon the sudder jumma or Government revenue. Both were inequitable and unworkable, The Government rejected both, and appointed a Committee to devise a scheme, which would obviate the objections taken to the above-mentioned two plans. Babu Degumber Mitter gave the plan, which is now in force. So whatever the merit of the existing system, it is entirely due to Babu Degumber Mitter and not to Sir George Campbell, who, however, deserves credit for adopting it.

NAWAB ABDOOL GUNNY, C. S. I., intends, it is said, to make the following presents to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—a pair of young elephants 5 feet high; two tiger cubs; a chandelier; an ivory mat; an ivory cover for a pillow; a silver box made of silver wires: gold embroidered velvet sheets, &c., &c. The Nawab estimates the cost of his trip to Calcutta and back, including the presents, at one lakh and fifty thousand rupees.

THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT notices with approval the liberal conduct of Babu Hurry Mohun Thakoor, a resident of Bhaugulpore, who has given a sum of Rs. 5,000 to be employed in rebuilding a portion of the charitable dispensary at that station which has fallen into disrepair.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 3rd December.—Russia and Germany have notified their approval of the Austrian scheme of reforms in Turkey. Final arrangements only wait for the return of Gortschakoff to St. Petersburg. The weather throughout Europe is severe and in some parts heavy snow storms have fallen.

4th December.—Official despatches have been published in Paris, respecting the recent interviews between Lord Derby and the French Ambassador in London relative to the Suez Canal question. Lord Derby, in replying to the Ambassador on the 27th ultimo, stated that he adhered to his previous declaration that the Lords would not oppose an arrangement for placing the Canal under the management of an International Syndicate, though they would not propose it. His Lordship stated that the object of England's action was a purely defensive one, and intended to prevent preponderance of larger foreign influence in the management of the Canal. The recent rumour of the earlier assembling of Parliament is authoritatively denied.

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A deputation from the Anti-slavery Society of Great Britain waited on Earl Derby to-day at his official residence in Downing-street. The Earl, in replying, said he was quite prepared to advise the Khedive to abandon any scheme if such existed for the annexation of Abyssinia, but Government is at present without any information on the subject. He believed that the violation of the Zanzibar territory by Egypt, if authentic, must be due to some misunderstanding. In case the Sultan of Zanzibar requests the interference of England, the Government will endeavour to preserve good relations between Egypt and Zanzibar, and to prevent injustice by either side.

London, 6th December.—In accordance with the request of the Egyptian Government, that the British Government should send two gentlemen to be employed at the Egyptian ministry of Finance, Colonel J Stokes, Royal Engineers, has been ordered to proceed immediately to Cairo as second Special Commissioner. The Queen of Denmark and Princes Thyra left England on Saturday *en route* to Copenhagen.

Obituary.—Mustapha Pasha, brother of the Khedive.

8th December.—The Queen has invested Generals John Garoochi, N. B. Chamberlain and A H Horseford, as K. G. C. B., Generals E. A. Holdich, E, B. Hon'ble B. H. Ellis as K. C. S. I.

Berlin, 1st November—1875.—Gortschakoff arrived here from St. Petersburg and had a long conference with Prince Bismarck and the Emperor.

Madrid, 3rd December. 1875.—A ministerial notification again nominates Senor Canovas del Castillo to the Premiership.

St. Petersburg, 3rd December.—A fresh rising of the Kiptschak tribes against the Russians at Khokond. An engagement took place on the 24th ultimo, in which the Russians Proved victorious having defeated with great slaughter 20,000 Kiptschak troops on the Syr Daria.

London, 10th December—At a dinner held in the fishmongers hall on Saint Georges festival, the Duke of Cambridge said that the recent events in Burmah' China and Malacca shewed the necessity of being prepared' The Duke said conscription was impracticable, and therefore it was but possible to recruit the army by offering higher pay

St Petersburgh 10th December—At Saint Geoges festival, on 8th the Czar toasting the Emperos of Austria and Germany referred to the close alliance between the three Empires and said that the sole object of thrt alliance was the maintenance peace.

THE EAST INDIA ASSOCIATION has addressed a memorial to the Secretary of State against the import duty on long-stapled yarn imposed by the Government of India. Lord Salisbury says in reply that it will receive his "careful consideration."

GREAT DISSATISFACTION prevails in town in consequence of the absence of any orders for the closing of public offices under the Government of India on the occasion of the Prince's visit. A week's holiday was allowed on the occasion of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh's visit, and it would be strange if no holiday were allowed in honor of the visit of the Heir Apparent to the Throne! The Bengal Government has been deservedly liberal.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows:

"There is a great agitation amongst the inhabitants of Rishra in consequence of the Joint Magistrate of Serampore having ordered the prosecution of some persons, belonging to respectable families for having burnt a dead body near a pucca ghat, though the very place has been used for the purposes of cremation, for upwards of a century. The Joint has not condescended to consult the local Commissioners and the reason is obvious."

WE HAVE received an account of the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Jowrah. His Excellency was received with great enthusiasm. We regret we cannot publish the report for want of space. It has however been published in the morning papers.

ON TUESDAY last His Honor the LieutenantGovernor visited the Calcutta Public Library and was received by the Hon'ble Raja Narendra Krishna Bahadur, Babu Pearychand Mitter, and Mr. Maclachlan, members of the Council of the Library. The Council of the Library have applied to the Government for a grant in aid.

WE ARE requested to state that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has consented to be President of the Social Science Association and Mr. Macaulay to be Joint Secretary.

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications and periodicals:—1 Khundua Khunda Khadhya by Babu Mahendranath Bhuttacharjea M.A., reprinted from the *Bunga Durasana*. 2. *Vikarini*, a *Monthly Magazine* in Bengali, for Aghrayana. 3. *Bunga Dursana* for Bhadra. 4. The *Anglo-Indian Commercial Advertizer* for October. 5. Journal of the East Indian Association No. 2. 6. *Dampati Milan* or an ode in honor of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales by Durga Churn Banerjee. 7. Report on the Political Administration of the Rajpootana States. 8. Sheet Almanac of Messrs Cones and Co. for 1876. 9. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society for November. 10. *Macmillan's Magazine* for September, October, and November.

THE CALCUTTA CORRESPONDENT of the *Times* thus notices the appointment of Raja Narendra Krishna Bahadur to the Governor General's Council: "He is a member of a family which has long held a leading position among the Bengali community of the capital, and is the possessor of large estates in the Lower Provinces. About three months ago he was raised to the rank of Raja in recognition of the liberality shown by him to his own tenantry and to other sufferers during the famine of 1873-74."

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1875.

THE SECOND CHAPTER OF THE PRINCE'S VISIT.

THE second chapter of the Prince's Tour embraces His Royal Highness's visit to Ceylon. Detailed accounts of the doings there have not yet reached Calcutta, but the reports of the preparations made for His Royal Highness's reception at Ceylon show that the Prince was received there with an enthusiasm and devotion not surpassed by anything of the kind in the Indian Peninsula. A magnificent square *pandal* resembling the Bengali *atchala* was erected for the reception of the Prince. A large fleet of fishing boats, outriggers—the like of which could be seen only in certain well-defined limits of tropic seas—were put out gaily decorated. Afterwards, when the landing took place they formed a part of the line of boats through which the royal barge and the Captains' gigs passed. The Royal party, says the *Royal Tourist*, arrived at Colombo on the 1st instant, and although this was by several days an earlier date than had been originally fixed, and consequently the arrangements made necessarily incomplete, His Royal Highness met with a most gratifying, indeed, a most enthusiastic reception. But beyond what the telegraph messages supply, we can expect no details for some days yet. The Prince, says the *Tourist*, "has made his *debut* as a slayer of the largest game on the surface of the earth, the elephant, two of that tribe having fallen to his rifle at Avisahavelle, on the 6th, the date of the exploit and situation of the scene showing that His Royal Highness, who had left Kandy on the morning of the 4th, had done Ruannelle and Rutnapoora, and had arrived within a day's short ride of Colombo on or before the 6th. It was in returning from the kraal or drive of elephants at Avisahavelle that the Prince's carriage was overturned and smashed, His Royal Highness escaping unhurt, though it must have been through sheer good luck." We offer our respectful congratulations to His Royal Highness for this narrow and Providential escape. With their oriental instinct and imagination our countrymen attribute it to the Divinity which, to put the saying in a different sense, doth hedge round a king. We give below the latest telegram from Ceylon:

Colombo, 8th December, 23h.—This forenoon the Prince visited the cocoanut oil manufactory of Messrs. Leechman, inspecting the processes from plucking nuts off the palm to casking the oil. He was much interested in the healthy and happy appearance of the Tamil labourers. The coir fibre was manufactured and inspected, and there was an exposition of the products of the coco palm. He next visited Mr. Wall's coffee store, and saw all the processes of drying and preparing coffee for shipment. These visits involved seven miles' driving. These were in the city chiefly through the native town; all the streets were decorated profusely, and crowded by orderly and enthusiastic people.

The Sunday School children, Singalese, Tamil, Eurasian, and European sang "God Bless the Prince of Wales." In the afternoon, in the presence of a large concourse, the Prince laid the foundation stone of the Colombo Breakwater, which is to cost three-quarters of a million sterling. The Governor introduced, during the proceedings, the Chief Engineer, Mr. Kyle, who explained the plan and importance of the work as regards Eastern trade. The largest Steamers of the P. and O. will be able to lie alongside when finished. The Prince replied that it had given him great pleasure, in accordance with the request of the people of Ceylon, to lay the first stone of this breakwater. He felt convinced of the great utility of the work, and was glad that his visit to Ceylon on this occasion had enabled him to be connected with laying the foundation of so necessary a work. The Prince handled a specially prepared trowel and malle [like a mason no doubt], and pronounced the stone to be duly laid.

There was a grand display of Brock's fire-works on the Esplanade in the evening and a general illumination.

The Prince embarks at tenin the *Serapis* for Tuticorin.

Special correspondents have preceded in the Colonial steamer *Nagotana*.

The Prince and visitors are delighted with the Ceylon arrangements, which were a great success.

Ceylon is the golden Lanka of the Ramayana. There it was Rama fought his battles with Ravana for the recovery of his hapless spouse Sita.

THE IMPORT DUTY OR THE INCOME TAX?

SIR LOUIS MALLET'S deputation will decide the question of the continuance of the import duty or the re-imposition of the Income Tax one way or another. If the import duty on cotton goods goes the Income Tax is sure to be re-imposed. The duty now yields about £800,000 per annum, and the Government can ill afford to lose such a large revenue. It must be replaced anyhow, and Manchester recommends the Income Tax as a substitute. The Income Tax is also in favor with a large class of Indian officials. They seem to think that the only way to reach the pockets of rich natives is the taxing of their incomes. These natives, they hold, do not contribute to the necessities of the State in proportion to their means. It is the good government of the country which has enabled them to amass their wealth and to enjoy it in peace and security, but, argue the advocates of the Income Tax, they do not make an adequate return for the protection and prosperity they are blessed with. On the other hand Manchester contends that the repeal of the import duty on the cotton goods will benefit the poor, because they will get cheap clothing. The two parties view the question from different stand-points, but they agree in this that the Income Tax would be a good substitute for the import duty. The Manchester men of course do not care for the loss of revenue which the repeal of the import duty would entail. Their sympathy with the poor of India is a mere pretext, they look to their own pockets, and if these could be saved, they would back any tax which would supply the revenue the sure loss of which was made by the Government of India the only ground for resisting their demand.

Thus stands the question of the import duty or Income Tax. It rests with the people of India how it is to be decided. It is true that their voice is feeble, but we cannot believe that if they can have the strength to raise it, it will go for nothing. The country has had enough experience of the blessings of the Income Tax. It has been tried thrice, and thrice has it failed. Firstly, it was tried by Mr. James Wilson, who introduced it with all the technicalities and elaborate machinery of its English prototype. He had simply copied it from the *English Statute Book and cast it upon India. The exigencies of the* State were then serious, and the public reluctantly accepted it. The monster deficit had to be extinguished anyhow, and the only effectual weapon which the new financial athlete could furnish was the Income Tax. Men of experience like Sir Charles Trevelyan foresaw at once the danger of the new project and warned the Government against it, not without personal risk; but the Finance Minister was all-powerful, and would not listen to any body. The protest of Sir Charles Trevelyan had one good effect. It broke the neck of the other two "tremendous taxes," which had been launched along with the Income Tax, we mean the License Tax and the Tobacco tax.

The brief experience which the Government had had of the working of Mr. Wilson's Income Tax had, however, convinced it of its unsuitableness to the circumstances of this country. It had proved a fearful engine of injustice, annoyance and oppression, and the death of its author gave the Government an opportunity to retrace its steps. Still there was a gap in revenue, which could not be easily filled up, and the tax was therefore retained in a modified form. Mr. Laing, who succeeded Mr. Wilson, at once saw the evils of the Income Tax, and was the first to acknowledge them publicly. He could not however repeal it altogether; he tried his best to narrow the area of its incidence and to mitigate its evil effects; he reduced the percentage of the tax, and raised its minimum limit; above all, he allowed the previous returns of income to be accepted generally in order to prevent inquisitorial enquiry and oppression. Even these radical changes did not answer, for the subordinate administrative agency sought every pretext to wring out of the people what it could over and above the legal demand. At last came Sir Charles Trevelyan who, true to his word, allowed the tax to expire after the appointed term. Thus the Income Tax had been tried twice and failed. It was again resuscitated by Lord Mayo's Government. Then the public were loud in denouncing this fresh imposition of the tax. There was a good excuse for Mr. Wilson, for then the State was on the verge of bankrupt-

cy, but Lord Mayo had no such excuse. The Income Tax had been originally proposed as a war tax only, and it was submitted to by the people as a penalty for the Sepoy Revolt. But the country was in peace, and the ordinary revenues of the State prosperous when its re-imposition was again sought. Both in and out of Council the measure was hotly opposed; in Council it was opposed by none so vehemently as by the late Sir Henry Durand who stigmatised it as an "odious tax." A native prince, we mean the Maharajah of Jeypore, who was then in Council, lectured the Government on the impolicy of reviving such an odious tax, but the Government was determined to carry its point, and the result was an indignation meeting at the Town Hall and a petition to the House of Commons. The Government doggedly persisted in its course; tales of oppression assailed the public ear from all parts of the country, and discontent was rife from one end of the land to the other. Petitions were sent to Her Majesty the Queen for a Royal Commission of Enquiry, and even the English Press now began to echo the Indian cry. At such a time Lord Northbrook came out to take charge of the helm of the State, and one of his first acts was to institute a thorough and searching enquiry into the working of the Income Tax, and also of local taxation which had been imposed by way of supplement to it. The results of the enquiry were embodied in two big royal octavo volumes, and were conclusive against the Income Tax. His Lordship then determined to repeal it, and his measure had the effect of at once quenching the burning fire of popular discontent. Are we now to have the same Income Tax back in order to fill the pockets of the cotton lords of Manchester? Are the people of India to bleed in order to feed the hungry operatives of Lancashire? Is the same fearful engine of injustice and oppression which sucked the life-blood of the people in times past to be set in motion again in order to silence the selfish cries of the malcontents of Manchester? Is the financial system of India to be upset because it does not satisfy the greed of a commercial clique of England? Are the taxes of India to be regulated in order to adjust the balance sheets of the mill-owners of Liverpool? What, after all, is the claim of Manchester? If India is to be governed for the good of its millions, and not for that of a few cotton manufacturers of England, why should the former be sacrificed for the sake of the latter? If the supply of cheap clothing to the poor people of India be the chief object of Manchester, why should it then be jealous of the rising industry of Bombay? Why should it consider the success of the Bombay Mills a blow to its own enterprise? Why should it then seek at all for the repeal of the import duty? For the people of India are more likely to get cheap clothing when it is manufactured at home, than when it is imported from a distance of ten thousand miles. But Manchester's sympathy with the poor people of India is a mere *ruse*; as we have said above, it looks only to its own pocket, and does not care in the least how the people of India may fare. It is grossly selfish, both in seeking for the repeal of the import duty and the re-imposition of the Income Tax.

It is however fortunate that Sir Louis Mallet has come out at a time when our future Sovereign is amidst us. His Royal Highness has seen with his own eyes the devoted loyalty and attachment of the people of India to the British Crown, the enthusiasm with which they have welcomed his advent, and the rejoicings with which they have celebrated it. Surely he will tell his Queen Mother what he has seen, heard and enjoyed, and will he not also tell her how ill-requited will they be, if England, because she has the power, will favor a knot of her own children by repealing the import duty on cotton goods and shift the burden on to the shoulders of the helpless children of India because she, poor sufferer, lies at her feet. Nothing, we submit, would be more heart-rending to India than this return for her loyal offerings to her Sovereign. It is also a happy coincidence that Her Majesty's representative in India does not advise the repeal of the import duty, and it is therefore well worthy of consideration whether Her Majesty's Government or Parliament should sanction a measure against which the people of India and their responsible ruler protest in one voice. The ignorant masses of this country have a notion, not wholly unjustified by experience, that the Queen's Government and Income Tax are convertible terms, for the assumption of the direct rule of the country by the Crown in 1858 was followed by the Income Tax in 1860. It is true that it was repealed twice within the last 15 years, but is the Prince's visit again to be followed by the re-imposition of the "odious tax?" Such a measure will but too truly and sadly confirm the popular notion. We would therefore earnestly entreat Lord Salisbury to pause and consider before he plays himself into the hands of the selfish Manchester clique. Sir Louis Mallet has a sacred task before him, and we hope he will not sacrifice the interests of the poor and dumb millions of India at the alter of pelf and power.

MR. DISREALI ON HIS FOREIGN POLICY AND ON THE PRINCE IN INDIA.

MR. DISREALI'S speech at the Lord Mayor's Banquet was not a string of barren platitudes as post-prandial utterances on such occasions usually are. It had the substance and grit of a political epilogue. The Parliamentary Session is over; the Cabinet has done much work during the recess, and the Minister gave a good and interesting account of it. There were rumours of war in Europe but happily that calamity had been averted. He said: "A year ago, my Lord Mayor, when I had the honour of addressing your predecessor, the country was agitated with rumours of wars, and wars that we were told were to be carried on in the centre of Europe and between its most civilized communities. I ventured then to say, on the part of the Government, that it was not only our hope but our belief that war would not ensue; and that the country might depend upon our utmost efforts to prevent such a calamity. War has not ensued, my Lord; and as to any share Her Majesty's Ministers may have had in the prevention of that evil, all that will say of it is this—that it is one of which they are not ashamed. (Cheers.)" We do not know whether something is not still looming in the distance in the East of Europe. The Turkish question is still on the *tapis*, and Mr. Disreali thus alluded to it. "It would be an affectation to pretend that a partial revolt in a Province of European Turkey has brought about a state of affairs which in that part of the world very often becomes critical. In the present instance the wise forbearance of the Great Powers immediately interested in the question—a wise forbearance to which I beg to offer my most sincere testimony, and which cannot be too highly appreciated—produced an effect so happy that at one moment, some months ago, we had a right to believe that this serious disturbance would immediately cease. My Lord Mayor, an unfortunate event which I will not dwell upon—the financial catastrophe of one of our allies—revived the expiring struggle, gave a new aspect to all the circumstances, and created hopes and fears in quarters and in circles which before that did not exist. It is impossible to deny that circumstances of this character are critical, but for my own part I have still great confidence in that forbearance to which I have referred. I believe that it will continue to be exercised, and I have myself not only a trust, but a conviction, that means will be ascertained which will bring about a satisfactory result (cheers)—a result which will be consistent with the maintenance of peace, and which will be satisfactory to the public opinion of Europe." We say *amen*! But we have our misgivings. Mr. Disreali was emphatic about the "British interests" of which he was in charge. He remarked that "those to whom the conduct of your affairs is now intrusted are deeply conscious of the nature and the magnitude of those British interests, and those British interests they are resolved to guard and maintain." We have faith in the Foreign Policy of the Conservatives, and the success with which they have stolen a march over the European Powers by concluding the new compact with the Ruler of Egypt has justly enlisted the confidence of the public in their resolution and capacity. Mr. Disreali thus alluded to the threatened war with China. "Had it fallen to my lot, my Lord Mayor, perhaps, only a month ago to have returned you our thanks for this honour, I should, perhaps, have had to announce a war between this country and one friendly relations with which it is the interest and wish of the citizens of London especially to maintain and cherish. A war with China, which was then impending, would have been a war with a country with which of all others England would not be placed in collision. We have no wish to invade or appropriate their territory. Although I cannot but believe that any military proceedings on our part with them must be certain of success, the result, though successful, would scarcely be triumphant. Besides it is our interest to strengthen the centralized Government which seemed to be prepared to make war upon us, and which always becomes more feeble when war is waged by them. Fortunately, that evil has been averted. The good sense of the Chinese Government, and in a great degree the energy and resource of Her Majesty's Minister in that country, have, I believe, prevented that evil, and I think we may fairly count now upon that calamity not occurring. (Cheers.) For myself, I have always been of opinion that the longer peace was maintained with China the greater was the chance of that peace being permanent, because the more the people are enriched by commercial communications with Europe the more contented and less troublesome they become to that Central Government which it is our wish and interest to strengthen. (Cheers.)" Nothing could be more graceful than the manner of his compliment to Mr. Wade, the British Minister in China. He observed: "I have referred to the labours, the successful labours, of Mr. Wade, Her Majesty's Minister in China; because we are too apt to forget when men are toiling thousands and tens of thousands of miles from their native country in the public interest, how keen is the appreciation, on their part, of any sympathy which may be expressed for them by the country they represent (cheers); and I cannot but believe at this moment, when Mr. Wade, at Pekin, hears that on the Lord Mayor's day there was such an expression of sympathy in this assembly of his fellow-countrymen with his labours and his position, he will experience a reward which perhaps no honours can rival, and certainly few can exceed. (Cheers.)" It is such generous recognition of services rendered in distant climes under great difficulties, which offers the most active stimulus to further exertions. The Premier also briefly glanced at the condition of the Colonies. "Seven years ago," he said, "the members of the present Administration, scarcely with any exception, the same men established the Dominion in North America—I believe in our generation not the least important political feat. (Cheers.) Seven years have passed, and have demonstrated the depth, the wisdom, and manifested the success of that great undertaking. The same spirit animates Her Majesty's Ministers at present. There is every prospect of another confederation of Colonies and societies being established in South Africa which will add powers to our Empire and diffuse immense advantage to the world in general. These are the acts of a Government that has confidence in the Colonial Empire of Great Britain, who, instead of believing, as some have believed, that it was an exhaustive incumbrance on our resources and political life, feel, on the contrary, that it ought to be to England a source of wealth, of power, and of glory. (Cheers.) And pursuing that policy, we indicated last year, a wise confidence that year after year the relations between our Colonial fellow-subjects and ourselves will increase in interest, in sympathy, and advantage. (Cheers.)" Mr. Disreali also adverted in his usual happy way to the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to India:

"My Lord Mayor,—I will advert for a moment to a more distant Oriental country, which last year I had to notice as in a condition very different from that which it now occupies. India last year, had only just escaped from the direst visitation that can visit humanity—extensive famine amid teeming population. It escaped from that calamity by the ability of its Government, and especially by the energy and the resource of the Queen's Viceroy. (Cheers.) At the present moment India—to which you yourself, my Lord Mayor have so happily adverted—offers a very different contrast to that scene. The Prince of India, as well as of England, has planted his foot for the first time on that Empire, which he is, perhaps, destined to rule, and which none of his ancestors have ever visited. (Cheers.) It would be idle to look

upon such an enterprise on his part as a mere pastime of pleasure. A Prince of his intelligence, a Prince who himself has had more experience of travel probably, than any individual even in this hall, visits India with no ordinary motive and for no ordinary objects. No one can doubt that it is a visit which will be rife with consequences of importance both to India and to England (Cheers.) This I will only say, that enthusiastic as may be his reception in Hindostan, of which we have already heard, nothing can be more complete than the sympathy he left on our own shores, and which he received from his countrymen, shared only with the beautiful and gifted lady whom he sorrowing left, but whom when he left, he entrusted to the affections of the British people. (Loud cheers")

The enthusiasm with which His Royal Highness has been received in India will doubtless be most gratifying to our Gracious Sovereign, to Her Ministers, and to the British nation at large. Loyalty to the Crown is a peculiar virtue with the people of the East, and Her Majesty's subjects are really proud of the opportunity afforded to them to demonstrate it in the person of the Heir Apparent to the Throne.

THE VICE-REGAL RECESS.

In this country we have no Parliamentary Recess. Our Governors or Ministers of State are in harness from year's end to year's end. The Governor General has however established two sessions for the carrying on of the work of his government, we mean the Calcutta and Simla sessions. Usually His Excellency in going and coming from and to Calcutta spends a short time in visiting either some of the territories under British rule or some of the Native States. This period may not improperly be called the Vice regal Recess. It is on this occasion His Excellency comes in direct contact with the prince and people of India. These visits have a good political and moral effect. The Viceroy is the Lord Paramount in India, and where he condescends to visit the Native chiefs and princes in their own territories, they consider it an honor, and when to this condescension are added frankness of mind and grace of manner, the honor done becomes a pleasing reality and is duly appreciated. Lord Northbrook has with great sagacity improved the occasion afforded to him by the Prince of Wales' visit to Bombay. The proceedings taken by the Government of India in the unfortunate Baroda business had alarmed the Native princes, who not unreasonably thought that the blow aimed against the Gaekwar might any day fall upon them. But we believe that the generous demeanour of the Viceroy towards the Native princes during his recent tour has to a great extent disabused their minds. They have seen that the Viceroy has no covert design against the independence of the Native Chiefs. However desirous to put down with a strong hand, oppression and misrule in Native States he is well aware that interferences with the details of internal administration in those States is no part of the business of the British Government. It is only when the abuses assume a serious magnitude, driving the people to desperation and threatening the peace of the State concerned, it becomes the duty of the Paramount Power to step in and meet such outbursts of popular feeling, in fact to throw oil over troubled waters. The Baroda business though managed most clumsily has had one good effect. It has doubtless convinced the Native chiefs and princes that British aggrandizement has not been the object of the Viceroy, while the promotion of good government has been his sole motive, however ill-advised he might have been as to the means for accomplishing his end. The open arms with which his Excellency was received during his late tour by the Maharaja Holkar, the Maharana of Oodoypore, the Maharaja of Jodhpore, the Maharaja of Jeypore and other lesser potentates have shown that His Excellency has not lost the regard and confidence of the Native princes and chiefs. Some important objects have also been secured by these visits of the Viceroy. His Highness the Holkar has agreed to give up his own coinage and to have his coin manufactured at the British mint. The Maharana of Oodoypore has been soothed for his wounded pride in having been made to give precedence to the Maharaja of Mysore and the Gaekwar of Baroda at Bombay. The Maharaja of Jeypore had considered himself somewhat under a cloud for the bold and independent part he had taken in the late Baroda trial, but the Viceroy's visit has given him the assurance that it was a mistake of his. At Jeypore His Excellency inaugurated the Mayo Hospital and unveiled the Mayo Statue, and in doing so paid a graceful tribute to the memory of his predecessor. At the State Banquet to the Viceroy His Highness the Maharaja delivered an excellent address in which he described the good effects of Vice-regal visits to the Native States. We have much pleasure in extracting the following from the Maharaja's speech:

"Your Excellency's illustrious predecessor's visit to Rajpootana is still fresh in our memory, and its beneficial effects are discernible in more than one direction. I sincerely hope that this, your Excellency's first visit, will also continue long to bear fruits most graceful to Rajpoot Princes and their people, whose welfare and prosperity your Excellency has so much and so sincerely at heart, and whose interests it has been the constant policy of your Excellency's Government to protect and cherish. The salutary effects of such Viceregal visits cannot be too highly estimated. These friendly visits are, to my understanding, the best and most effectual means of assuring native princes and their people of the good will and kind care of Government for them, and of making them more sensible of the innumerable blessings they enjoy, under the protection of the Paramount Power, and under the benign influence of truth and justice that sway the counsels of the Empire. Your Excellency, as the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen in this her eastern empire, cannot give a better expression to the kind interest which Her Majesty's Government always takes in the welfare of native princes, and in preserving the integrity of their States, than by condescending to visit them in their own homes, and to extend to them the benefits of your vast experience and mature wisdom, to enable them better to fulfil the responsible duties required of them.

"My mind is at present occupied with the absorbing interest of the unprecedented and auspicious event about to take place. I mean the coming visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to this residence of my ancestors and myself—an event which I and my people are expecting with the liveliest joy, and impatiently waiting to celebrate with all the loyal manifestations in my power. Solicitous as I am for giving a right hearty and loyal reception to the Prince. I am the more impressed with a sense of the obligation your Excellency has been pleased to impose on me, by favouring me with this very opportune friendly visit and thereby placing within my reach the benefits of your advice, to enable me to complete the necessary preparations for the reception of His Royal Highness in a suitable and acceptable manner. I hope your Excellency will be pleased to leave me fully instructed as to how I shall manifest my duty and loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on the happy and auspicious occasion about to be realised."

The reply of His Excellency the Viceroy was worthy of the occasion and himself. We give it *in extenso*:

"Maharajah, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I am sincerely obliged to you for the manner in which you have drank my health. I beg to acknowledge, on behalf of the Queen, the sentiments of loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty which your Highness has expressed, and I shall have great pleasure in conveying them to Her Majesty. The Queen will learn with satisfaction the terms which your Highness has used to describe the benefits conferred upon the princes and people of Rajpootana by the British Government as the Paramount Power in India; and I have received Her Majesty's commands to omit no opportunity of announcing the sincere friendship which she entertains for the native princes of India and the deep interest which she feels in their welfare.

"Your Highness has alluded to my recent journey through Central India and Rajpootana, and expressed an opinion that much advantage is derived from the visits which are occasionally paid by Her Majesty's representatives in India to Native States. For my part I can truly say that my tour has been one of unalloyed interest and gratification.

"From the confines of the Presidency of Bombay to the border of the North Western Provinces I have passed through the territories of many Native States, some of which have, owing to the difficulties of communication, never been visited by my predecessors in the office of Viceroy. I have seen the ruins of ancient cities and fortress rich in historical associations. I have visited capital cities, such as Oodeypore and Jodhpore, remarkable for the picturesqueness of their situation and the beauty of their buildings, and showing, moreover, signs that their rulers are not unmindful of the requirements of modern civilization. Among these cities Jeypore has excited my admiration from the grandeur of the designs of your Highness's illustrious ancestor Jiwin Jey Sing, and from the magnificence with which your Highness yourself has added to the advancement of the city and the comfort of its inhabitants.

"I have inspected many institutions founded for the benefit of the people, and among them are conspicuous the college and school of art in which your Highness takes so great an interest, and the hospital which we have assisted to open to-day in honor of Lord Mayo. The higher ranks throughout Central India and Rajpootana show a great appreciation of the value of a liberal education for their children, many of whom I have seen at the different colleges and schools, and all the Princes whose States I have traversed are hearty in their efforts to further the education of their subjects of all classes.

"I have found in Central India and Rajpootana Sir Henry Daly and Mr. Lyall representing the British Government with great ability, and evidently possessing the confidence of the Princes with whom they have to deal; while the British Residents at all the States through which I have passed, at Oodeypore, at Jodhpore, and here at Jeypore, are on the best terms with the Princes near whose courts they reside. Throughout the whole country I have traversed peace reigns undisturbed, and there is every sign of the prosperity of the people. Not sixty years since anarchy and rapine rioted over the land. Your Highness has truly said that this peace and prosperity is due, under Providence, to the influence and authority of the British Government, exercised in the true interests of the princes and the people; and I am sure that it is now universally recognized that Her Majesty's representatives in India are actuated in their dealings with Native States by these considerations alone.

"The condition of this part of India must be a just source of satisfaction to every Englishman. For myself I have felt it deeply; and I have everywhere been received, as Her Majesty's representative, with a welcome so hearty that I have found it impossible adequately to convey my acknowledgments.

"These are the vivid impressions which I have received during my progress, and which will never be effaced from my memory. I am grateful to your Highness for having, by alluding to the subject, afforded me an opportunity of expressing my feelings upon the present occasion.

"I shall take the earliest opportunity of acquainting the Prince of Wales with the manner in which your Highness has alluded to His Royal Highness's expected visit to this city; and I am sure that in no part of India will His Royal Highness receive a more hearty and enthusiastic welcome.

"I wish now to propose a toast. It is that of our host to-night, His Highness the Maharajah of Jeypore. The welcome which the Maharajah has given to me has been in conformity with the anxiety His Highness has always shown to embrace every opportunity of making known his sentiments of loyalty to the Queen, and of cordial attachment to the British Government. We as Englishmen must all feel much indebted to His Highness for the magnificent reception with which he has honored me as Her Majesty's representative. Our language is not so fertile in compliment as that which is spoken by His Highness the Maharajah. I can only say, in all truth and sincerity, that personally I am very grateful to His Highness for the manner in which all my wishes have been anticipated, and every arrangement has been made for my comfort. His Highness has been good enough to express feelings of personal friendship and esteem toward myself. I can assure him that it has afforded me great pleasure to maintain unimpaired the cordial friendship which existed between His Highness and my distinguished predecessor, Lord Mayo. For four years His Highness has been good enough to form one of the Legislative Council of India; and although by reason of the state of his health, his attendance at the meetings of the Council has not been so frequent as I could have wished, his advice has on several important occasions been most valuable. To this company who are assembled to-night most of you residing here or in the immediate neighbourhood. I need say nothing more because you all know how hospitable His Highness has always been to his English guests. I ask you then to drink the health of the Maharajah of Jeypore and to wish to His Highness and to his country a continuance of that prosperity upon which we are fortunate in being able to congratulate him at the present time."

We hope this address will be translated into the vernacular and circulated among the Native princes and chiefs not only in Central India but throughout the country.

At Ajmere His Excellency received the Maharajas of Kishenghur, Bhurtpore and Ulwar, to whom he gave some good advice. From the British subjects of Ajmere His Excellency received a sincere and hearty welcome. The Municipal Commissioners of that ancient capital of Rajputana expressed "their affection and loyalty towards Her Majesty and the Royal Family."

In reply His Excellency said:

"On behalf of the Queen I thank you for the sentiments of loyalty and affection to Her Majesty which you have conveyed to me in your address, as representatives of the inhabitants of Ajmere.

"I had hoped that this city might have been included in the tour of the Prince of Wales; but I was sorry to find, on going through the programme at Bombay, that the time at His Royal Highness's disposal will not admit of this arrangement being carried out. I know that this announcement will be a matter of regret to you, as it is to me. I am satisfied that there is no place in India where the Prince would receive a more loyal and hearty welcome, and it is a great disappointment to His Royal Highness himself that he is prevented from visiting Ajmere.

"I am glad to hear from you that the city is prosperous, and that the municipality is engaged upon works of public utility.

"Municipal institution are somewhat new in India, and cannot be expected at once to have the same vigour which they possess in England, where they have existed for hundreds of years. I am sanguine myself that they will be of much use; but the members of municipalities should proceed gradually and cautiously; they should be careful to keep their expenses within their means; and they should abstain from imposing heavy taxes upon the people.

"The provision of an abundant supply of pure water to your city is a most important work. I understand from the Commissioner that you propose to apply to the Government of India for a loan to enable you to carry out your plans. The Commissioner will explain to you the rules under which such loans are given, when, as is probably the case with you, works of this kind cannot be executed out of the annual income of a municipality.

"I am much obliged to you for your kind sentiments towards myself. I am very glad to have been able to visit this beautiful and prosperous city, and I shall have much pleasure in visiting your college and your other local institutions.

The Istamrardars of Ajmere also presented an address which ran as follows:

"May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Tazimi Istamrardars, on behalf of the assembled Istamrardars of this district, beg leave to approach your Excellency, and avail ourselves gladly of the opportunity afforded by your visit to Ajmere to thank you for the kindly interest displayed towards us in assuring to ourselves, and to our successors, our ancestral estates on an istamrar title; and also for the generous help given by your Excellency's Government, by which we have been enabled to extricate our estates from the embarrassment which well nigh threatened to overwhelm them.

"We again assure your Excellency of our loyalty and devotion to the British Government, and cordially welcome your Excellency to Ajmere."

His Excellency replied:

"I thank you for your address, in which you have expressed your feelings of loyalty to the Queen and of attachment to the British Government.

"The measures which have been taken to assist you in preserving your ancestral estates have, I am glad to hear, been now completed. The best return you can make for the consideration that has been shown to you is to be careful in future to limit your expenses by your incomes, and to be liberal landlords to the ryots on your estates.

"By so doing you will act to your own advantage; you will be honored and useful members of society; and you will secure the approval and support of the Commissioners, the Chief Commissioner, and the Government of India.

"I am very glad to have had an opportunity of receiving you in person, and you have my hearty good wishes for your welfare."

Last week we published the address of the young Raja of Dhar, which betokened a lively feeling of gratitude. Thus wherever the Viceroy went His Excellency received warm expressions of good will, friendship and gratitude. The Viceregal Recess was most usefully spent. We now heartily welcome His Excellency's return to the capital.

INDIAN LABORERS IN ENGLISH COLONIES.

THE COLONIAL INTELLIGENCER for November contains some interesting accounts of movements made in England for the amelioration of the condition of Indian laborers in English colonies. In August last a Deputation headed by Sir George Campbell waited upon Lord Salisbury to represent the condition of Indian coolies in the Mauritius. The deputation was introduced by Sir G. Campbell, K.C.S.I., M. P., and included Lord Stanley of Alderley, Professor Fawcett, M. P., Mr. E. Jenkins, M. P., Mr. J. C. Clarke, M. P., Mr. Young, M.P., Mr. A. M'Arthur, M.P., Mr. H. Richard, M.P., Sir H. Havelock, M.P., Sir C. Wingfield, K.C.S.I., the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., General Marriott, the Rev. F. S. Turner, Mr. Hurrychund Chintamon, Mr. Rostomjee Vicajee, Mr. Pestonjee Bazonjee, Mr. E. Sturge, and Mr. R. Alsop. In his introductory speech Sir George Campbell adverted to the report of the Royal Commission and said that it was clear from that report that in the Mauritius the Indians who had completed their terms of service under indenture were not treated as free men, and were not admitted to the privileges of the rest of her Majesty's subjects; but, on the contrary, were subjected to the greatest injustice in various shapes, to such a degree as to make it impossible to wish that the Indians should colonize on such terms. Nothing but the most radical reform could make their position tolerable. Sir George continued: "It must be remembered, that though the population of India was large, the amount of that population which was willing to labour at a distance from their homes was really very limited, and was by no means the best part of the population, but rather an inferior part, driven by straits to an expatriation from which the people were naturally averse. For so much of the population as might labour away from their homes, there was already a demand from the less populated provinces of India greater than it could meet. And, although in our tea and coffee districts the wages might be lower than in most of the colonies, it was certain, on the other hand, that the emigrants to those district were far better protected and secured in their rights than in the colonies. It seemed to him, under such circumstances, to be unfair and undesirable to allow paid recruiters and crimps to lure people away to places of which they knew nothing, if we knew that they were not treated with justice and not properly protected by the authorities. He was inclined to think that the evils of the indenture system of emigration were only compensated by the prospect of free labour and free colonization, when the period of enforced service was concluded; but if it turned out, as in the Mauritius, that there was no equality and no freedom for the Indian, even after he had fulfilled all his obligations, the hope of successful colonization must fall to the ground." Sir George concluded by observing that "if equal justice was to be meted and an equal balance held between the white and black races in tropical colonies, it was necessary that political power should not be left with the former only. Even nominee members of Colonial Legislatures, if exclusively taken from the white colonists, hardly held an impartial position. His view was that the direct power of the Government in these mixed colonies must be increased, and especially that great vigilance must be exercised to make sure that the representatives of the Crown do their duty without fear or favour, under circumstances which made it very difficult for them to do so. He could not help saying that when the ordinances were passed under which the black population of the Mauritius had suffered, and which it was not too strong to call scandalous, the main fault lay with the Crown authorities in the colony, whose duty it was to check such abuses." Mr. Chesson, Secretary to the Aborigines Protection Society, said that the report of the Royal Commission demonstrated that the coolie system in the Mauritius had grievous defects; that many of the magistrates had exhibited an utter disregard of the law, and, instead of making it a terror to evil-doers, had used it so as in many cases to inflict gross and cruel injustice; that on many estates wages had been habitually in arrear while on others grave acts of cruelty have been committed; that the punishment inflicted upon the offenders in such cases had been excessively lenient compared with the penalties imposed upon the coolies for comparatively trivial offences; and, lastly, that the moral and sanitary condition of the immigrants was the reverse of satisfactory. The Secretary on behalf of the Society suggested that if indentured immigration was to continue, proper means should be taken to inform the intending immigrant not merely of the rate of wages he should receive, but also of the character of the labour laws of the colony; what duties he would be required to perform; what penalties he would be subject to; and lastly, what his status would be after the termination of his indenture. In other words, said Mr. Chesson, "we are of opinion that before the coolies leave India, they ought to be fully informed, in their own vernacular, of the exact nature of the legal position they will occupy in the colony as indentured or time-expired immigrants. We may add that this recommendation should apply to all other colonies." Sir Charles Wingfield remarked that the population of the Mauritius in 1872 numbered 325,000 souls, or 466 to the square mile, in a country devoid of manufactures. Of this number 10,000 only were whites, 90,000 of African descent, and 225,000 of Indian race, of whom 75,000 were employed on the sugar estates. Here was evidently an abundant supply of labour, even though no fresh immigration should take place, if sufficient inducement were offered in the form of good and remunerated wages. Sir Charles justly held that "labour was merely a question of wages, because the Royal Commissioners has stated that indentured immigrants on estates would incur the penalties of absence without leave in order to work elsewhere as free men for better wages. Why then, it would be asked, were more and more indentured immigrants demanded by the planters? The answer is, because their labour was cheaper. Here, again we had it on the undoubted authority of two inspectors of police, that the planters would discharge time-expired immigrants working on their estates in order to obtain the cheaper labour of indentured immigrants, and this was a main cause of vagrancy." In a colony where labour is easily obtainable at market rates, it is no part of the duty of the Government of India to facilitate the obtaining a supply of labour at less than market rates If emigration to the Mauritius were left entirely free, that is, if the machinery of recruiters and contracts were withdrawn, and supposing labour to be well remunerated in the island, there could be no doubt that the natives of this country, encouraged by the favourable reports of their brethren in the island, would repair thither. But if the remuneration of labour was inadequate, the only reason could be that the local supply was sufficient, and more immigrants were not needed. Lord Stanley of Alderley remarked that the Society hoped that the India Office would, after consideration of the Mauritius Blue Book, use its influence with the Colonial Office in order to obtain that at least one of the chief of the law officers of that island should be an Englishman and not a Creole or in any way connected with the planting interest. Lord Salisbury returned the following reply:

"The subject referred to in the memorial had been carefully considered by him, and he had been deeply impressed by its importance, and also by the magnitude of the abuses which had arisen in some places by reason of insufficient supervision. In order to effect any real and useful reforms the subject must be approached in an unprejudiced spirit. The want of labour was so keenly felt in the colony that employers looked with impatience upon any regulations which impeded its adequate flow. In India people were so impressed with the sufferings to which the immigrants are occasionally exposed that they had come to regard all immigration as a sort of evil which should be checked by any provision that ingenuity could suggest. This feeling was not universal among Indian officials, but it prevailed occasionally. In England, where the Government was removed far away from all passionate feeling, their duty was to try and hold the balance even, and to encourage what was good and wholesome in the immigration system, at the same time taking steps to prevent the evils by which it had hitherto been occasionally attended. They must carefully avoid the doctrine that immigration from India was in itself an evil. On the contrary, the immigration of people who, in their own country, could not earn more than 2*s.* 6*d.* a week to a colony in which they could double their earnings must in itself—in other considerations being put aside—be regarded as an advantage. Sir Charles Wingfield had urged that free immigration should be substituted for the present system, but he forgot that the labourers were wholly unable to defray the expense of their passage. The native labourers in India were very poor. Their only capital was their labour, and all the Indian Government said was that the coolies should be permitted to mortgage their labour for five years in order to obtain the means of carrying it into a better market. This struck him as being a perfectly sound proceeding, but it was incumbent upon the Government to see that the labourers thoroughly understood the nature of the contracts into which they were invited to enter, and that when they reached the colonies in which they were to serve they would be protected by just laws vigilantly and equitably administered. In most of the colonies in which labour was required slavery had formerly prevailed; and one of the most blighting effects of slavery was the debauching influence it exercised upon public sentiment. This resulted in laws which were well intended and equitably constructed being administered in a manner inconsistent with their letter and intention. He was glad to know that the views of the Aborigines Protection Society were principally turned to the remedying of these evils. If the Society tried to impress the British public with the idea that immigration was in itself a thing to be looked upon with dislike, its words would fall feebly upon the sentiment of the country; but if they would turn their attention to that which was the real evil—namely, that the laws for the protection of the immigrants were not thoroughly and successfully administered—their efforts would be attended with success. The principal remedy which has been suggested by Sir George Campbell himself, and which was now under the consideration of the Government, was that in the colonies employing coolie labour protectors or inspectors drawn from the country to which the coolies belonged should be appointed, and that they should report to the Home Government any cases of injustice which might come under their notice. If this was done he could assure the deputation that the Home Government would pay prompt attention to any reports made to them by the inspectors. The only desire entertained both by Lord Carnarvon and himself was that coolie immigration, which was founded on sound principles, should be so managed as to prove advantageous alike to the labourers and to the colonies in which they were employed. In this as in all other matters where conflicting interests had to be reconciled, the operation of a society like the Aborigines Protection Society must prove beneficial, by disseminating sound principles and strengthening the hands of the authorities who had to deal with people in distant parts whose interests came sharply into conflict.

The principle enunciated by Lord Salisbury is undoubtedly sound, but his Lordship did not answer the point raised by Sir Charles Wingfield. If the laboring population of the Mauritus is abundant and sufficient to meet the requirements of the island, we cannot understand why artificial pressure should be applied to draw more laborers from India, particularly when the evil consequences are admittedly so serious.

As regards the general question of coolie immigration from India we submit that the ideas, which seem to prevail on the subject of over-population of India, are not quite correct. Dr. Smith has clearly pointed out this fact in a recent issue of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*. He writes:

"The truth we believe to be, that the population of India will not suffice for all its own wants, under good government, up to a period so distant that we may leave it altogether out of account. Grant that the statistical result was indubitably established by the census of 1871, that the normal rate of increase is a half per cent. every year—very nearly what it is in this country. But we must make large deductions in any comparison of Southern Asia with Europe for the fact that human life is so brief in the former. The girl is a mother at twelve or before that, and an old woman at thirty. This is proportionally true of the men, so far as we can obtain reliable death statistics or may trust observation. What India suffers from is not an excess of population all over, but a congestion of human beings at certain centres and in special districts. Oude, for instance, has 474 and Bengal proper 464 to the square mile or more than Belgium. But the average all over the country is only 165. In some provinces, like Burmah, it falls to 27. In Coorg the rate is only 6; in Assam 66; in the central provinces 81; in the Punjaub only 111, and that after from a quarter of a century's to half a century's occupation of these countries by the British. There are some so-called Christian officials who would allow and have allowed our native subjects to die of famine; there are men who ship them off to foreign colonies to perish of epidemics by the way or be oppressed when they arrive, and yet, extensive lands of glorious fertility, like Burmah, Assam, Central India, and half Bombay, are crying for human beings to till the ground. For years the authorities of Burmah have sought to tempt

Burmese and Chinamen to settle on the wastes, free of all taxation at first, and to a large extent in vain, though the land has only to be tickled to bring forth plenteously. Assam, the great tea country, is also a mine of mineral wealth, all untouched for want of labour. The tea-planters there are exposed to an unfair competition with French, Dutch, Danish and even English sugar-growers, to whose tender mercies we consign the simple aboriginal races that would be better in their own land. The wide-stretching plains from Allahabad to Bombay, which were wasted by the Mahrattas a century ago, have never recovered for want of people."

This is perfectly true. We would not, however, oppose immigration if the coolies were treated as free agents. It is because they are in many of the colonies treated as slaves we protest against the system. The Government of India we are of opinion ought to have a large voice in the management of these depots of Indian labor. No law or ordinance relating to Indian immigrants should be passed by the Colonies without the consent of the Government of India.

JAIL ADMINISTRATION IN BENGAL.

WE have read with great interest Sir Richard Temple's Resolution on the Jail administration of Bengal. The facts have been clearly set forth, though we cannot agree in all the conclusions drawn. Sir Richard justly gives credit to Mr. Heeley for the improvements effected, and to Major Bowie for the able, lucid and interesting manner in which he has described them. The Lieutenant Governor thus sums up his conclusions: "The chief points in the administration of prisons in Bengal during the past as compared with the previous year are the increase of 2,415 in the number of persons who passed through the jails, and of 1,744 in the average number of prisoners under confinement; the increase of 211 deaths, and of ·67 per cent. in the average death-rate among them; the continued unhealthiness of some of the Behar jails, and of the worst among the jails of Northern Bengal; the extension of the system of employing warder guards in jails and lock-ups; the stricter enforcement of the classification of prisoners and of jail rules generally, accompanied by a considerable increase in jail offences and in petty punishments; the increase of Rs. 2,10,858 in the cost of the department as a whole; and the increase of Rs. 44, 500 in the profitable outturn of prisoners' labor, contrasted with the increase of Rs. 1,74,400 in value of manufactured articles undisposed of at the close of the year." As regards increase of cost His Honor justly attributes it to the high price of food, which prevailed in 1874 owing to scarcity. By far the most important point noticed in the report of last year is increased mortality in the jails. The number of deaths in the jails of Bengal during the year was 1,151, against 934 in the previous year." The death-rate was thus 5·59 per cent., against 4·84 in 1873 and 5·40 in 1872. Taking both jails and lock-ups together, the number of deaths was 1·175 and the death-rate 5·41. This great mortality, the Lieutenant Governor remarks, is much to be deplored, and the more so as the efforts which have been made of late years to improve the sanitation of the jails has been attended with so little success. It is true that the mortality does not amount to from 9 to 13 per cent., as it used to do in the years prior to 1864, but it is disappointing to find that notwithstanding the close attention which has been given to the subject, the constant proportion of deaths has continued to remain at from 40 to 50 per thousand. In the Julpigoree jail, with an average population of 147·77 inmates, there were 40 deaths, the rate of mortality being thus 27·02 per cent. against 5·55 per cent. in the previous year, and 42·62 per cent. in 1872. Little explanation can be afforded of this great mortality. The site of the jail is said to be fairly good, the water excellent, and the accommodation for prisoners ample. In the Rungpore jail, with an average population of 510 inmates, 90 prisoners died, giving a mortality of 17·68 per cent. In this jail the admission into hospital for treatment of these diseases amounted to no less than 47 per cent. of the average number present, while the admissions for the treatment of intermittent and remittent fevers amounted to upwards of 50 per cent. The death-rate in this jail during 1872 and 1873 did not exceed 3·59 and 7·73 per cent. respectively. In the Behar jails of Gya, Tirhoot, and Chumparun, the mortality was 17·13, 10·00, and 15·20 per cent. respectively. In the Mymensing jail the death-rate was nearly double that of the previous year, being 12·86 against 5·80 per cent. Now, all this is most unsatisfactory and sad. It is true that the Government is active in effecting sanitary improvements, but the tree is judged by its fruit. His Honor justly feels astonished at the result, but may not the internal discipline enforced in the jails be a cause of increased mortality. The people of Bengal are weak and delicate, and may not the stringent penal discipline, which was introduced by Sir George Campbell, have had a deteriorating effect upon the health of the prisoners and resulted in an increased rate of mortality. We do not perceive from the Resolution of the Lieutenant Governor that this point has received due attention from His Honor. Then we observe that Sir Richard Temple notices with approval that a greater number of persons were flogged in the past year than in the year previous. The number rose from 3,880 to 6,502. Of the whole number 1,171 were youths under 20 years of age. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that closer compliance is now paid to the orders which have been issued, directing the attention of all Magistrates to the salutary provisions of the law in this particular. We consider this a matter of regret. As a mode of penal discipline flogging is inhuman and demoralizing, and the less it is resorted to the better. We are sorry to notice the increase in the number of female prisoners. The total number of females convicted during the year was 2,263, against 1,660, in 1873, showing an increase of 603 persons. We are however glad to observe that the number of juvenile offenders was slightly less last year than in the previous year, being 535 in 1874 against 548 in 1873. The Lieutenant Governor remarks, "the question of establishing a separate reformatory for criminals of this class has lately considered by the Legislature, and there is a prospect of an early determination being come to in the matter. The fact that no less than 7 girls and 64 boys under 12 years of age were sentenced to imprisonment during the year, in addition to 536 sentenced to flogging, is suggestive of melancholy, considerations, and would seem to corroborate the remarks made by Mr. Heeley in his report for 1873, that there is reason to apprehend that a practice is increasing of deliberately training young children to a life of crime." We confess we do not regard this fact in the same light. That there were only 7 girls and 64 boys under 12 years convicted of crime among a population of 63 millions is we submit a matter of congratulation, and does not call for exceptional legislation. The large number of under-trial prisoners and the proportion of acquittals shew how the Police are apt to arrest persons without a sufficient cause, and what an engine of oppression has the new Criminal Procedure Code placed in their hands. Of the 40,902 under-trial prisoners admitted during the year, 22,342 prisoners are shown to have been convicted and sentenced during the year, and 18,065 to have been released. The proportion of convictions to persons kept under trial was thus 54·6 per cent., against 51·9 per cent. in the previous year. The average period of the detention of prisoners when under trial appears to have been 12·8 days. The fact that prisoners committed to the sessions are usually confined in district jails would tend to increase this average in the jails as compared with lock-ups; and it accordingly appears that while in the former the average period of detention was 14·78, in the latter it was only 11·44. These facts we submit are so much against the Police. But in particular districts the detention of prisoners was much longer. Thus:

Jails.			*Lock-ups.*		
Midnapore central jail.		34·50			
Moorshedabad	...	26·90	Bhowaneegunge	...	41·97
Bogra	...	25·21	Buxar	...	33·87
Backergunge	...	23·78	Buxa	..	28·35
Noakholly	...	22·07	Gurbetta	...	24·68
Lohardugga	..	21·27	Attia	...	21·87
Russia	...	21·10	Cutwa	...	20·65
Maldah	...	20·83			
Dinagepore.	...	20·72			

The Lieutenant Governor we are glad to observe has directed the Inspector General of Prisons to bring this matter to the notice of the Magistrates, and to obtain an explanation of the causes to which these results were due.

The increasing stringency with which prison discipline is now enforced has resulted in a large increase in offences against jail rules. In the past year the total number recorded was 31,475 against 25,912 in 1873. On previous occasions the arbitrary manner in which it would appear from the returns that punishments have been inflicted in the several jails, has been the subject of unfavourable comment. The Lieutenant Governor observes that the same results are apparent from the returns now submitted. We hope the remarks of His Honor on this head will bear fruit.

The receipts from jail manufactures have fallen off. The deficiency is attributed to less demand for gunny cloth. The subject of jail industry deserves careful consideration.

VACCINATION IN BENGAL.

IN THE Resolution of the Lieutenant Governo on the Report of the Surgeon General on Vaccination in the Lower Provinces His Honor i pleased to express "his concurrence with the opinion of the Surgeon General, that the history of vaccination in Bengal during 1874-75 contains some (though not sufficient) element of progress and is suggestive of hope for greater things in future." We may hope for greater things not from the history of vaccination in Bengal but from the natural law of progress. Without meaning to depreciate the services of those officially responsible for the extension of vaccine operations we are constrained to say that the means at their disposal are still insufficient even for reaching the poor and ignorant portion of the inhabitants of Calcutta, where it is said "attention has been paid to the necessity of concentrating operations in the matter of extending operations." We may say that no strong prejudice exists against vaccinationin Calcutta and its vicinity, and yet we hear of numerous deaths from small pox affecting young people and children who have had no opportunity of being vaccinated. In the interior of the remote districts we seldom hear of vaccinators. *It is true the time has not yet arrived for making vaccination compulsory by law, but if there is any work in which magistrates in the muffussil may legitimately use pressure, it is the extension of vaccination as a preventive against the yearly decimation of helpless people by small pox.* But magistrates will not be justified in the application of the pressure suggested unless they are provided with the means of giving effect to the pressure by making vaccine agency available to all applicants. Every police station ought to have at least 4 to 6 vaccinators attached to it according to the extent of its jurisdiction and the population under its care. Gratuitous aid ought to be given to the very destitute. Besides the number of vaccinators in the pay of Government and under the immediate control and disposal of the Superintendent General of Vaccination, a large number of vaccinators may be trained up and thrown into every district to practise on their own account, their work being subject to the supervision of the circle superintendents. In fact the submission to that supervision should be a condition of their license. While the self-supporting system may be extensively introduced, endeavour should at the same time be made to reduce the cost of vaccination to a minimum. The fee payable to the vaccine agents who supply lymph is even in Calcutta considered excessive; pauper children gratuitously vaccinated may be engaged in the work at a small remuneration by a more economical arrangement than what is now made with their parents.

In the absence of the original report we are obliged to depend upon the Government Resolution for facts and figures connected with the vaccine operations of last year. There has been an increase in the strength of the vaccinating agency in the shape of one additional native superintendent, one head vaccinator, 27 vaccinators and 56 ex-inoculators, also a nett increase of 168,039 cases in the number of operations performed. The total number of vaccinations effected during the year by circle and dispensary vaccinators was 957,673, in 1873-74 the number was 791,634, and in 1872, 687,406. In the Ranchee vaccine circle the total number vaccinated fell from 37,411 in 1873-74 to 27,343 in last year. In the Dar

jeeling circle there was an increase of 22,912 in the number of operations. In the Metropolitan circles the total number of operations performed in the year of report amounted to 402,385 against 306,676 in 1873. In the East Bengal circle the increase in the number of operations was 32,457; much of this success was due to the exertions of the late lamented Deputy Superintendent of the Dacca Circle, Babu Bhobun Mohun Mitter. The Government is not satisfied with the increase of 7,828 exhibited against the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the outturn of work has not been according to expectation. Of the working power and efficiency of the vaccinators employed the following figures furnish some proof. The mean number of operations performed during the past year per man was 2,303 and this only in the metropolitan circles, in the year previous the number was 1,436. In the East Bengal circle the average number of operations per man was less by one-half and more. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs the number fell from 2,506 to 904. The aggregate cost of vaccination in the Lower Provinces during the year of report was Rs. 1,02,069 against Rs. 98,207 in 1873-74. Of this, Government bears 90 per cent of the charges and the rest is defrayed from municipal and other local funds. The average cost of each successful case was from two annas to one anna ten pies.

Sir Richard Temple calls attention of the department to his remarks on the report for 1873-74 about the great importance of promoting the system of vaccination by independent practitioners and to this, he observes, sufficient attention was not paid by the Civil Surgeons. In his minute of 28th June last, Sir Richard very justly observed "that the proper, perhaps the only, test of success in regard to vaccination is the total absence of small pox." From the report reviewed he points out that the total number of deaths from small pox was 11,948 against 12,017 in 1873.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE received the names of under-mentioned subscribers to the Prince of Wales' Entertainment Fund:

Amount already acknowledged		Rs.	45,935
Raja Suttyanund Ghosal Bahadur			
Kumar Sutto Sutto Ghosal			250 paid.
Kumar Sutto Kristo Ghosal			
Rai Bonwary Lal Schoo Bahadur			250 paid.
Rai Satab Chand Nahar, Azeemgunge			100
Newab Mehdi Koely Khan Bahadur			100 paid.
Hukeem Syud Russul Ali Khan			100
Babu Aunodaprosad Mookerjea, Oolla			100 paid.
„ Bunshidur Rai, Moorshedabad			100 paid.
„ Eshanchunder Mookerjea			50
Babu Jebun Kissen Gossain			50
Moulvi Syud Abdool Azeez, Bhaugulpore			50 paid.
Moonshi Kumroodeen,	ditto.		50 paid.
Babu Tarini Persad	ditto.		50 paid.
„ Shoshi Bhuson	ditto.		50 paid.
„ Joshir Lal	ditto.		50 paid.
Syud Abdool Oheed			50 paid.
„ Mohamed Israel			50
Moulvi Serajul Islam			50
Chowdry Ufsuroddeen			50
Meer Ubdoopumed			50
Babu Boykant Nath Roy			50
„ Dwarkanath Pal Chowdry			50 paid.
„ Brojonath Pal Chowdry			50 paid.
Hajee Mahomed Jaffer Isthanee			50
Moonshee Mahomed Moosa			50
Moonshee Mahomed Zakaria			50
Saheb zadah Mahomed Shooja-ool-Moolk			50
Moulvie Zuhoorool Huck			50
Moulvie Fuzli Ali			50
Total			47,985

WE ARE requested to announce the names of the following subscribers in aid of Dr. Sircar's Science Association:

Raja Odoy Pertab Sing Bahadur, Bhinga	Rs.	500
Babu Nilmadhub Mookerjea, Demonstrator of Anatomy, Medical College	„	500
„ Rassicklal Banerjea, Proprietor, Mirzapore Medical Hall	„	200
„ Gurudas Banerjea, M. A. B. L. Pleader, High Court	„	100
„ Mahendranath Mookerjea, East India Railway	„	50

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS the Prince of Wales will confer an honour upon the Calcutta University by taking the honorary degree of D. C. L. from its Senate. A Convocation of the University will be held for the bestowal of the degree.

WE ARE requested to mention that on Wednesday next, the 15th instant, at 4-30 P. M. His Excellency the Viceroy will unveil the statue of Lord Lawrence facing the south entrance of Government House. Sir Richard Temple will address on behalf of the Committee and request the Viceroy to perform the ceremony of unveiling. The statue, we may state, has been executed by Mr. Woolner, the distinguished artist, who recently succeeded Mr. Foley as a Royal Academician.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy returned to the Capital on Thursday last. His Excellency was received at the Howrah Station by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, the Commissioner of Police, and a few other officials. On the grand stairs of Government House there was a goodly gathering of Europeans, chiefly officials, and of native gentlemen to receive His Excellency. The Viceroy, though fagged, looked considerably improved in health.

AT LAST Saturday's sitting of the Bengal Council the Irrigation Bill with some important amendments was passed. The Calcutta Municipal Bill was also discussed in Committee of the whole Council and brought to a close. The Select Committee will sit upon the clauses relating to the constitution after the Prince's festival is over. Two months' time has been allowed to the Committee to report upon the subject.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL. The Government has at last given a site opposite Theatre Road for the Mayo Statue. It will temporarily be placed in the Canning site for exhibition during the Prince of Wales' visit.

Mr. Hogg is making heroic exertions to make the illumination of the Town on the arrival of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales a success. We see a complaint made in the columns of some of our contemporaries that in making the arrangements he does not consult the public. The complaint is not reasonable. A Committee was appointed by a public meeting, and an Executive Committee by the Central Committee, and in all the arrangements made Mr. Hogg has acted in consultation with the Executive Committee, which represents the public. We believe His Honor the Lieutenant Governor is anxious that a full opportunity should be given to the mass of the native population to witness the illumination and fire-works without molestation. Space will be allotted to them to the south and west of the race ground for seeing the fire-works, and at the junction of the roads for seeing the Royal procession on the illumination night. Much will however depend on the Police. We hope the Police will be instructed to preserve order without being rude. A notification ought to be issued giving instructions to the Police and specifying the accommodation to be provided for the public.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has shewn his usual energy in completing the arrangements for the opening of the new Zoological Garden. Since his Minute of the 24th September last, regarding the establishment of a Zoological Garden at Calcutta, the site selected, viz. the ground on both sides of the road leading from Zeerat Bridge to Belvedere, has been cleared, and a commencement has been made, in the western portion of the land, towards the laying out of the gardens, the alignment of the roads and paths, and the preparation of structures for the reception of the animals. The nucleus of a collection of animals is ready to hand in Mr. Schwendler's fine contribution, and other specimens have been given and promised. A committee has also been appointed consisting of Lord Ulick Browne as President, and Mr. L. Schwendler. Dr. G. King, Mr. A. F. Watson, and Mr. C. E. Buckland, as members, the last-named gentleman to act also as Secretary. We are told that some handsome subscriptions have already been received, among which we may mention the liberal contribution of Rs. 2000 from Babu Rajendra Mullick Rai Bahadur. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor is of opinion that "the local Government having provided the site, have a claim to hope for the support of the public in an undertaking in which the whole population is interested." The scheme is well worthy of public support not only because it will afford a means of education to the student of natural history, but also of recreation and amusement to the mass of the people. But if public subscriptions are to be taken, there ought to be in the managing Committee representatives of the non-official community both European and Native.

WE HAVE received several letters anent the holidays granted by the Lieutenant Governor in honor of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. A correspondent says that some of the Civil Court authorities doubt whether they will be competent to close the Courts without the authority of the High Court inasmuch as all matters relating to the closing of the Courts are by law vested in the High Court. Another correspondent says that while the Government of Bengal has issued a circular to the Judges of the Civil Courts for the closing of the courts it has given no orders to the officers of the Education Department on the subject. A third correspondent says that the Government will confer a signal favour upon Mofussil officers if the holidays were made to commence from the 21st instant so as to enable them to witness the grand spectacle of the Prince's landing.

MR. WOODROW, the Officiating Director of Public Instruction, has addressed the following circular to the Principals and Secretaries of aided and unaided schools in Calcutta:

Sir,—His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is anxious that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales should have an opportunity of seeing the pupil of schools and colleges of Calcutta, but the programme for each day shows that the visits of ceremony to native Princes and other proceedings will occupy so long a time, that it is uncertain whether an hour can be found for the Prince to visit a gathering of school.

It has also been proposed that the new anthem "God Bless Our Noble Prince" should be sung. It is to be remembered that the Prince of Wales is a good judge of music, and that it would better to have no singing than to have bad singing.

There is also a difficulty in arranging a gathering of pupils when almost all schools will be closed for the Christmas vacations, and the majority of teachers as well as of pupils will be away from the schools. Still a large gathering, though difficult to arrange, will not be impossible. If a gathering of the schools and colleges for Christians, Mussulmans, Hindus, and others were to be arranged, I beg to know how many pupils you could send. In any large gathering it would be right to have the little children seated on low forms in front larger children behind them, and college students on high forms in the last lines, so that all may have an opportunity of seeing the proceedings. The girls must be seated in separate sections from the boys. Pupils of the same school should be kept together and should have a banner showing the name of the school.

It would be necessary to ask you to supply forms or seats for the pupils sent to the gathering. When the number who would attend is known, it would be possible to judge whether the gathering should be in the open air in the cool of the afternoon or in a building.

If you feel willing to co-operate in the matter, I should feel obliged if you would send me the information asked for in the accompanying form.

The idea is good, but we fear there is great difficulty in carrying it out. If it is uncertain whether an hour can be found for the Prince to visit a gathering of schools, we do not see the good of making the proposal. Then we agree with Mr. Woodrow that "it would be better to have no singing than to have bad singing." Our boys are not taught music at school, and it will be difficult to train them properly within the short time before them. Surely it would not be desirable to have a new edition of the chanting of *Bundha Matha Surodhani*.

WE OBSERVE that a Municipal Bill has been introduced in the Madras Legislative Council: We give the following abstract of its provisions from the speech of the mover:

"What immediately led to the proposal to have a revised Act was a resolution of the Municipal Commissioners to ask the Government to levy a toll on boats and rafts conveying goods between the shipping and the shore, to raise funds to pay interest due to Government on a large loan they had obtained for Water Works scheme. The Chamber of Commerce strongly objected to this proposal and reminded the Government of the proviso with which the Governor-General had passed our Municipal Act *viz.* that the power to levy sea tolls should not be exercised by the Municipality. A sea toll was considered to be a mere impost on trade for purposes of the Municipality in return for no service whatever, being in fact an almost undisguised transit duty which is the least excusable, considering that Madras is difficult of access by sea and that the expense and risk attending the landing and shipping of goods are at a maximum. The Government then appointed a Committee consisting of the Chairman and ten members to revise the present Acts where the existing provisions are defective or objectionable, and directed their

attention especially to four points, one to cut out the sections relating to sea tolls, the second to amend the sections relating to the special water rate, third to consider the substitution of an octroi on all articles brought into the town for consumption in lieu of the profession tax and tolls, fourth to modify the house-tax so as to relieve the poorest habitations. Meantime, the Municipal Commissioners themselves had appointed a Commitee from their own body to reorganise their establishment and system of work. That Commitee proposed various changes in the constitution and executive agency of the Municipality, calculated to effect considerable savings. A review of the Reorganization Committee's report and of the proposals of the Revision Committee appointed by the Government shows beyond all doubt that the income of the Municipality falls far short of the cost of even the restricted services which it at present performs, and that it will, of course, be utterly inadequate to meet the extent of services which a city like Madras should it be called upon to provide for itself. The average of six years' income is only Rs. 5,10,576, while the average charges have amounted to Rs. 5,68,171. It is thought that, providing only for the present services with a larger outlay on road repairs and including hospitals and education, future expenditure may be put down at more than seven lakhs. So here at once, there is a startling deficit that has to be met. Then there are the water scheme, the lighting scheme and the drainage scheme to be provided for and it is thought that the metropolis of Madras may be called upon to contribute to the cost of the Police which provides for the safety of its citizens and the protection of its accumulated wealth. Various other minor reforms have to be provided for which need not now be entered into. It will be necessary to bring in a revised Municipal Act to legalize and provide for all these reforms. Beside the raising of funds for Water supply, Lighting and Drainage, the chief feature of the new Bill will be the imposition of an octroi or town duties on all articles of consumption entering the city limits. No other taxation is likely to be so remunera'ive, and, at the same time, so little oppressive and unpopular. The town duties levied in Bombay have been, it is said, about 15 annas per head of the population. But, taking only twelve annas a head town duties would produce in Madras nearly three lakhs of rupees a year or sufficient in itself to meet the deficit in Municipal income.

So the primary object of the Municipal Bill of Madras is increase of taxation !

AN INTELLIGENT Russian Traveller, Mr. A. Woeikof, is amongst us. He is a member of the Russian Geographical Society, and a student of science. Physical science is his branch, and he is travelling in different parts of the world with a view to make scientific researches. He has addressed a very interesting letter to the *Statesman* on the subject of customs duties levied by Russia in its Central Asian territories. We make the following extract from his letter :

"I must first state that Russian Turkestan is beyond the Russian customs limits. The customs line lies north of the country, on the lower Syr Daria (Yaxartes). As to Russian Turkestan, no other duties are levied than the *jiaket*, 2½ per cent. on all goods imported to that country, as well from Russia as from abroad. This you will agree is in no way even a protective duty. By treaties with Eastern Turkestan, Kokhand, Bokhara, and Khiva, Russia has bound the rulers of those countries to levy no higher tax than 2½ per cent. on goods imported into those territories, and, conversely any goods imported from them are subject to the same duty. I do not see what could prevent the importation of British goods to the Khanates of Central Asia, except the difficulties and dangers of the road, and the want of knowledge the British manufacturers have of the taste of the people. And in fact British goods are imported to these countries.

As to the importation of Indian tea, I do not know of any measure taken to prevent it, and India would have the advantage of the shorter route, and of a more peaceful country to traverse than China. Russia has, in the last five years, taken great pains to get information about the road from China through Western Mongolia to Siberia and Central Asia, so as to supersede the old and difficult route through Kiakhta. But as yet none of the new roads lead directly to Eastern Turkistan, and the Khanates of Central Asia, the hostility of China to her former Mahomedan subjects preventing it. And it will certainly be easier for these countries to receive tea from India, and certainly it is not Russia who will prevent it.

Russian Turkestan, as I have shown before, enjoys nearly complete free trade. Beyond that, the duties are much lower on the Asiatic frontier of Russia proper than on the European. Generally the duties on the first amount but to 10 per cent. and in some instances to 5 per cent. on manufactured goods, and it is known that a certain quantity of British goods penetrate into Russia through Persia and Central Asia. Manufacturers and Chambers of Commerce have often petitioned the Government, that a distinction be made between goods of Asiatic manufacture which should continue to enter as before while the same tariff as that imposed on the European frontier should be levied on British goods. But I do not know that this has been done."

These facts shew that Russia does not throw obstacles in the way of British Indian trade in Central Asia.

THE MORNING papers publish the following protest from certain Justices of Calcutta addressed to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor :

TO THE HON'BLE SIR RICHARD TEMLPE &C.

SIR,—We, the undersigned Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta, respectfully represent that under an act of the Legislature, we were appointed, and we accepted the duties devolving upon us, as members of the Municipality of Calcutta.

That for some years, many of us have devoted much valuable time to the discharge of the duties of the appointment; and the advantages resulting from our labours have, at various times, been acknowledged by the Government of Bengal.

That in accepting the responsibilities thus put upon us, we claim also to exercise the freedom on which that responsibility rests. But we have recently observed, with deep regret, a disposition to interfere with the legal rights and moral duties of the Justices, in a way that is incompatible with the interests of the rate-payers.

That although the Act confers on the Justices the power of electing and dismissing certain officers of the municipality, strong official influence has from time to time been used to repress their freedom of action, or to nullify it when exercised. This influence has been notably manifested recently in (1) The attempt to stifle discussion in the case of the charges brought against the late Vice-Chairman, and to retain him in office in the face of grave and *proved* scandals ; (2) In the attempt to thrust on the Justices, as Vice-Chairman, a man against whose character grave charges had been publicly made, and for whom, nevertheless, a large proportion of Justices were prepared, at the Chairman's order, to vote ; and (3) In the nomination, as Vice-Chairman, of a gentleman wholly unknown to the Justices as a body, inexperienced in Municipal matters, and therefore unfitted to cope with the duties of an office, in which, important interests are involved, and which, from past circumstances, urgently needs strong and experienced supervision.

We complain that this nomination was made against the judgment of those Justices who have formed the actual working Municipal administration : against the expressed wishes of a large body of influential rate-payers : and against the almost unanimous desire of the public at large, who are immediately interested.

While we regard these particular preceedings as an immediate and special wrong, against which we respectfully protest, we protest more generally on the ground that such a course of procedure is fraught with the gravest danger to constitutional usages, and the rights and liberties of the people which rest upon them.

Though we have no desire to avoid any of the duties which as faithful and loyal citizens and subjects, we may be called upon to fulfil, it appears as if a state of things had been, induced, in which it may no longer be possible for honorable men beyond the official circle, to hold any public office with credit to themselves, or with advantage to the public. It is with an earnest desire to avert this, and to presserve to the city the services of men able and willing to serve the Municipality and the State, so long as they can do so honorably, that we respectfully submit this protest, subscribing ourselves.—Your Honor's most obedient humble servants,

(Sd.) H. H. Sutherland.	R. T. Cooke.
J. B. Knight.	W. Spink.
F. Jenings.	Jeremiah King.
Peary Chand Mitra.	C. F. Vonlintzgy.
James Wilson.	B Newman.
Walter Kerr Waller.	C. H. Ogborne, and Shoshee
C. H. Wilson.	Chunder Dutt.
John Mackintosh	

THE ENGLISHMAN gives currency to some of the latest rumours regarding changes in the Judicial Department of Bengal. Ten new zilla judges, it is said, are to be appointed on Rs. 3,000 a month—the Legal Remembrancer is to draw the same amount—and, lastly, the Government Pleaders are to have their pay raised, but to retain their extra fees. Are we to understand by this that Sir Richard Temple's scheme of appellate bench for the districts is to be carried out? An Assistant Government Pleader on Rs. 1,500 a month will also be appointed. We hope this appointment will be given to a native. A good High Court Pleader or an experienced Government Pleader in the Mofussil with liberty to plead Government cases in the High Court would we think be an excellent arrangement.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has recorded another Minute on the probable scarcity in Behar. In the Minute of the 6th November, he stated that the population likely to suffer, with more or less severity, comprised about 8,000,000. He now states "he is very thankful to be able to report that the above statement may be devided into two parts, one of which will consist of the population which will suffer less than was at first anticipated, so that no serious anxiety need be entertained regarding it." The reports received up to 2nd December justify him in stating that fortunately general or serious anxiety need not be entertained regarding about 5,600,000 of the above total. The Lieutenant Governor however estimates that according to present advices distress is apprehended for the following :

Districts.	Sub-Divisions.	Souls.
Durbhunga	Mudhoobanee	650,000
	Durbhunga	250,000
Mozufferpore ...	Seetamurhee	550,000
	Mozufferpore	450,000
Bhaugulpore	Soopool	500,000
	Total	2,400,000

His Honor commends the following works for relief :

	Miles.
I.—From Dhurbhunga to Gopalghat	32
II.—From Samastapore to Mozufferpore	30

We hope the extension of the Dhurbhanga Railway will be carried out.

WE HEAR that the Executive Committee of the Bengal Famine Relief Fund of 1874 has voted away the balance to Government. It is strange that the Committee have not even thought fit to call a meeting of the General Committee before coming to this decision. Are these Public Committees shams ?

THE MEETING of the Rate-payers of Calcutta at the Town Hall on Saturday last was both orderly and temperate. About one thousand persons, representing all classes of the community, were present. Babu Degumber, the Sheriff, was voted to the chair. The following Resolutions and Memorial were proposed and adopted :

Proposed by Babu Protap Chunder Mozoomdar :
Seconded by Babu Shama Churn Mitter :

1. That in the opinion of this meeting, the Municipality, as at present constituted, has failed to satisfy the just requirements of the city, owing, first, to the arbitrary and irresponsible powers vested in the Chairman; secondly, to the great preponderance of the official and sub-official element among the Justices; and, thirdly, to the union of the two offices of Chairman of the Justices and Commissioner of Police, and the imposition of numerous other offices on the Chairman, whereby he has been unable to give that close attention to primary duty so essential to good Municipal Government.

Proposed by Mr. J. B. Knight :
Seconded by Mr. Remfrey :

2. That the history of the Municipality, since its establishment, discloses a most imperfect system of accounts and absence of proper control over collections and expenditure, and a loose, if not an illegal, system of contracts and purchase of stores, whereby the Municipality has suffered great loss.

Proposed by Allardice, Master of the Trades' Association :
Seconded by Babu Judulal Mullick :

3. That in the opinion of this meeting, a well-considered elective representative system affords the best guarantee for the proper administration of the Municipal affairs of the city, by enabling the citizens who pay the rates, to entrust the expenditure of them to such of their fellow-citizens as possess their confidence, and are willing to discharge the duties thus entrusted to them, under such limitations only as may be consistent with and required by the interests of the country.

Proposed by Mr. James Wilson :
Seconded by Mr. Ameer Ally and supported by Mr. Branson :

4. That the following memorial embodying the sentiments of the foregoing resolutions be adopted and signed by the Sheriff on behalf of the meeting : and that the Sheriff be respectfully requested to present the same to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

To the Honorable Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, K. C. S. I., the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The Memorial of the Citizens of Calcutta in Public Meeting assembled.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your Memorialists are sensible of the advantages derivable from well administered municipal governments and also that such benefits are not to be realised without the burdens inseparable from such institutions. And though they admit that many and great improvements have been made in the city under the Municipality, as at present constituted, they feel that these improvements have been in many instances effected at a cost that has been needlessly burden-some to the rate payers, and disproportionate to the advantages conferred.

This they attribute to the practical irresponsibility of the administration and executive, and to the lax system of expenditure which has prevailed in the absence of proper constitutional control.

That this expenditure has been acknowledged in many instances to have been at least irregular : that the accounts have been unsatisfactory and misleading that the system of contracts and purchases is believed to have been was eful if not illegal ; and executive working of the Municipality not such as to possess the confidence of the rate-payers.

That your Memorialists regard a proper system of accounts and financial control as essential to sound administration, and in their opinion, no form of local government will secure this end, which does not provide for practical responsibility in its executive officers.

Your Memorialists, therefore, pray that a thorough investigation into the accounts and working of the Municipality be made by an independent commission (presided over by a Judge of the High Court or other competent officer), as an essential preliminary to the institution of an improved system of local administration : and they further pray that an elective system of representation may be introduced, that will enable the rate-payers to exercise reasonable control over the expenditure of money raised by local rates.

And inasmuch as the evils of which your memorialists complain are greatly increased by the pressure upon the Chairman of numerous offices apart from the one to which he was originally appointed, and more especially by the union of the two offices of Chairman of the Municipality and Commissioner of Police, an arrangement conferring upon him powers which in his capacity as head of the Municipality it is most undesirable that he should possess, your Memorialists respectfully pray that from the New Municipal Bill now before the Bengal Council, or from any amendment thereof, the provision, empowering the chief officer of the Municipality to hold also the office of Commissioner of Police, may be expunged.

And your memorialists, &c.

Proposed by Dr. Waller :
Seconded by Mr. Newman :

That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Sheriff for convening and presiding over this meeting.

Mr. Branson spoke the best. Mr. Knight was strong about the municipal accounts. Of the native speakers Babu Protapchunder Mozoomdar was the best. Babu Judulal Mullick confined himself to the Municipal Constitution

and new scheme. He was of opinion that the Reform Bill of Sir Richard Temple, if it was meant to be a reality, and not another sham, should be greatly improved.

THE FOREST ADMINISTRATION of Bengal may now deserve some notice, as the Department before the year 1874-75 existed only in name. There were at the beginning of the year only two forest divisions. Cooch Behar and Chittagong, and the entire reserved area of 120 square miles was confined to the Cooch Behar Division, of which 106 square miles were in Darjeeling and 14 in Julpigoree. At the end of the year there were five forest divisions, which were Darjeeling, Julpigoree, Palamow, the Soonderbuns, and Chittagong, and the total of reserved area comprised 1,467 square miles distributed over Julpigoree, Soonderbuns and Chittagong. The Sikim forests in the Darjeeling Division comprising an area of 6,902 acres have been examined and valued, and an area of 15,000 acres remaining unexplored will be examined this year. The reserves in the Julpigoree Division may be divided into two sections, one of five square miles adjoining the Muraghat sal forest and the other of 110 square miles forming the Buxa plain reserve. The Muraghat forest contains 171,590 sal trees, principally seedlings and saplings. The Buxa forest comprises 94 square miles of sal forest, six of kharri and sisoo, 38 miles of sovannah and two of cultivated land. It is calculated that this forest will yield at once an annual surplus of Rs. 20,000 which will be greatly increased hereafter. If it were not for the reckless waste of timber by fire which was continued so late as the year 1873 the produce would have been immensely greater. From Raja Bhatkhwa to Santrabari the forest on both sides of the Buxa Road was destroyed by fire by people living near trees 30 to 40 feet which burnt for days together, and these were the growth of years.

The most important fact which deeply affects the people of Calcutta is the formation of the Soonderbuns reserve, which comprises an area of 885 square miles and lies in the district of Jessore. A further area has been selected which extends to the line of the sea-coast. The first is intended for preserving soondre wood for timber and the second for fire-wood. No soondree trees of less girth than three cubits shall be permitted to be cut, and trees of three cubits and upwards will be allowed to be cut on payment of half an anna per maund for timber and three pie per maund for fire-wood. The question is who will make the estimate of weight—and how will it be made? It would have been a business-like arrangement if trees were allowed to be cut at so much per head, and in no case the payment exceeding eight annas for timber. If preservation of the forest be more an object than profit the rates of fee and the mode of realizing it should have been more equitable. The Bengal Forest Department, it appears, has yielded a profit without the Government wishing for it or making any arrangement for its realization. In the Darjeeling Division 12,704 sleepers were cut and collected for the Northern Bengal State Railway and a sum of Rs. 18,752 realized from private parties by the sale of timber; in the Julpigoree Division 1598 pieces of timber were brought to the depot and half of it disposed of at Rs. 5,973. There was an unsold stock of 16,698 pieces at the end of the year. The cost of establishment and other expenses amounted to Rs. 1,09,349 and the realizations from sale of timber and other forest produce were Rs. 1,91,693.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Bijnour Leterary Institute,	*13*	*4*	*0*
Secy Anjoman, Refa, Gonda...	*16*	*9*	*0*
Baboo Bhuan Lall, Arrah	5	0	0
,, Nundlal Banerjea, Hosongabad	1	12	0
,, Greeshchunder Ghose Ferozepore	13	4	0
,, Rajkristo Mookerjee, Narora	3	5	0
,, Sreeram Poramanick, Durbangha	20	0	0
,, Kallynath Bose, Narkoldanga	13	4	0
,, Ombicachurn Chowdry, Seetna	10	0	0
,, Ghummundeelal, Shahgunge	13	4	0
,, Gourlal Roy, Kakina	5	0	0
,, Annodoprosad Dutt, Ghasipara	10	0	0
,, Makhunlal, Mojoomder Jhurgram	15	0	0
,, Surjakant Chatterjee, Benares	13	4	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*December* 8, 1875.

GENERAL.—*The 2nd December* 1875.—Mr. Reginald Porch, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Noakhally, having resumed charge of his duties on the 10th November 1875, the unexpired portion of the privilege leave granted to him under orders of the 25th October 1875 is cancelled.

Mr. Charles Richardson Marriot, who has been recently appointed to be a member of the Bengal Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Patna Division, and is posted to the Sudder Station of the district of Patna.

The Services of Mr. T. J. Murray, C.S., Acting Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Sewan Division of the Sarun district are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

Mr. E. A. Bradbury, C.S., Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to the charge of the Sewan Division of the Sarun district.

The 3rd December 1875.—Baboo Hurry Mohun Sen. Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Gurbeta, Division of the Midnapore district, is allowed leave for sixteen days, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Code.

Mr. Frederick Hubert McLaughlin, C.S., on leave, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector of Dinagepore.

Mr. William Charles Muller, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is transferred to Rungpore.

Mr. A. W. Scalan, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Maldah, is transferred to Julpigoree.

Mr. C. M. W. Brett, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dinagepore, is transferred to Pubna.

The Assistant Superintendent of Survey, in charge of the Dearah profession work, is also to be an Assistant Superintendent under Act V (B.C.) of 1875.

The 4th December 1875.—Mr. John George Charles, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the 24-Pergunnahs. Mr. Charles will act as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the First Grade.

The 6th December 1875.—Baboo Nund Kumar Akyut, is appointed to have charge of the Palamow Sub-division during the absence, on leave, of Mr. L. R. Forbes from the afternoon of the 20th November 1875.

Mr. C. A. S. Bedford, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, who has reported his return from furlough, is posted to the Lohardduggu district.

The 7th December 1875.—Mr. L. B. Roberts, Assistant Settlement Officer, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave of absence for one month, under Section 3, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under orders dated 5th October 1875.

Mr. F. G. Millett, C.S., who reported his arrival on the 14th November 1875, is allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, to enable him to join his appointment on his return from furlough.

The privilege leave of absence for twenty-one days granted to Mr. John Beames, Magistrate and Collector of Cuttack, under orders of the 23rd November 1875, is cancelled.

The appointment of J. F. Stevens to act as Magistrate and Collector of Cuttack during Mr. Beames' absence is also cancelled.

Baboo Juggomohun Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Land Acquisition Office, Cuttack, is allowed forty-five days' privilege leave under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. F. A. Chichester, Acting Assistant Superintendent, of Police, is posted to the district of Pubna.

An extension of leave for six months, on medical certificate, has been granted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India to Mr. R. M. Waller, Assistant Magistrate and Collector.

An extension of furlough for three months has been granted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State of India to Mr. W. D. Bruce, Executive Engineer, Second Grade.

Baboo Gopal Chunder Mookerjea, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree is allowed leave for fifteen days, under Section 9, Supplement F, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 8th instant, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. Heysham, Deputy Collector, is vested with the powers of a Collector under the Land Acquisition Act (Act X of 1870) for the purpose of acquiring the lands required by the Estern Bengal Railway Company, for the proposed terminal arrangements for the accomodation of traffic at Goalundo in the district of Furreedpore.

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Secretary to the Justices of the Peace.

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আগত ১৫ই ডিসেম্বর বুধবার বেলা তিনটার সময় উপরোক্ত কোম্পানির রেজিষ্টারি করা আপিসে ১৬নং আপলো ষ্ট্রীটে ঐ কোম্পানির অংশিদারদিগের তৃতীয় সাধারণ অধিবেশন হইবেক এবং ঐ অধিবেশনে নিম্নস্থিত কার্য্য সকল সমাধা করা হইবে—

১ম—ডাইরেক্টরদিগের রিপোর্ট ও ৩০এ আপ্রেল ১৮৭৫ শকে যে বৎসরের শেষ হয় তাহার পরীক্ষিত বালান্সসিট গৃহিত হইবেক।

২য়—যে সকল ডাইরেক্টরেরা ক্রমান্বয়ে মনোনীত হন তাঁহাদিগের পরিবর্ত্তে দুই জনকে মনোনীত করা হইবে।

৩য়—যে সকল ডাইরেক্টরদিগের পদ শূন্য হইয়াছে তাঁহাদিগের কার্য্যে বোর্ড যাঁহাকে নিয়োজিত করিলেন তৎবিষয়ের স্থিরতা করা হইবে।

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